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"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIV.—NEW SERIES, No. 952.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JAN. 27, 1864.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.
STAMPED 6d.

COMMON SENSE.

A LECTURE will be delivered by the
Rev. HUGH STOWELL BROWN

(of Liverpool), on WEDNESDAY, February 3rd, 1864, on behalf
of the FOX and KNOT-COURT SUNDAY-SCHOOL, in the
METROPOLITAN TABERNACLE. Subject—"COMMON
SENSE."

The Chair will be taken by the Rev. C. H. SPURGEON at
Half-past Seven o'clock.

Tickets, 6d. and 1s. each, can be obtained of Mr. Blackshaw,
Metropolitan Tabernacle; and Mr. H. A. Tatnell, 120, Salis-
bury-square, E.C.

A PUBLIC MEETING will be held (D.V.)
in MILE-END NEW-TOWN CHAPEL, on TUESDAY,
2nd February, 1864, for the purpose of RAISING £1,000, due
upon the PURCHASE of the FREEHOLD SITE of the above
Chapel, Schools, &c., and the re-building of the Chapel.
The Chair to be taken at Seven o'clock by SAMUEL
MORLEY, Esq.

The meeting to be addressed by the Revs. THOMAS BINNEY,
W. DORLING, C. GILBERT, A. MACAUSLANE, J. PULLING, J.
ROSS, F. SODEN, J. THOMAS, B.A., and J. H. WILSON.

Tea will be provided at half-past Five.

Contributions will be gratefully received by the Rev. W.
TYLER, 2, Trafalgar-place East, Hackney-road.

THE DERBY THEATRE.—Any of the
Lord's people who would wish to HELP in the
TRANSFER of this building from the service of SATAN to
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next, shall be over Eighteen and under Twenty-two years of
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The ANNIVERSARY DINNER will be held at the LONDON
TAVERN, BISHOPSGATE-STREET, on TUESDAY, the 16th
February next.

The Right Hon. the LORD MAYOR has kindly consented
to preside on the occasion, supported by the Sheriffs of London
and Middlesex.

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Andrew Lusk, Esq., Alderman.
Benjamin S. Phillips, Esq., Alderman.

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THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XXIV.—NEW SERIES, No. 952.]

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Eccelesiastical Affairs.

PRESBYTERIAN PAUPERS.

WE beg pardon of the Presbyterian denomination, as such, for placing in juxtaposition the two words which make up the heading to the present article. We know of no necessary or natural connection between them. As they stand, they accurately describe the small band of persons on whose conduct we are about to animadvert—but they may suggest a much wider meaning than we intend or could justify. The Presbyterians in England are not a numerous body, but no one would ascribe to them either the spirit or the condition of paupers. The same remark will apply, with some exceptions, to the Presbyterians of Scotland. For ourselves, we should have drawn a distinction between one class and another of the Presbyterians in Ireland—but when we see a deputation to the Lord-Lieutenant, professedly representing "the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland," and sturdily begging an increase of the *Regium Donum*, in consideration of the virtues and the woes of the Presbyterian body, what else can we call them but what, with great reluctance, we have done? Be it understood, then, that in using the term "Presbyterian" as descriptive of these mendicants, we are well aware that, despite their pompous description of the Assembly they profess to represent, there are more than a hundred congregations of Presbyterians in Ireland which do not own their authority, and even of these, fifty, at least, are free from the vice of living upon the public.

This, however, by way of prelude merely. We now come to our theme. On Thursday last a numerous and influential deputation of what was described as "the Irish branch of the Presbyterian Church," headed by the Rev. J. Rogers, Moderator of the General Assembly, and accompanied by Lord Cremorne, Lord Dufferin, and four or five members of Parliament, waited upon the Lord Lieutenant at Dublin Castle, to submit to him a modest request for an increase of the *Regium Donum*. These gentlemen, for the most part clergymen and doctors of divinity, submitted a statement of facts as the basis of their appeal, such, probably, as no other men in the world would have made use of in furtherance of such an object. The Presbyterians of Ulster, it seems, have distinguished themselves by the impartial service they have rendered to Sovereigns and to Governments. They were useful to Charles the First—they were indulged by, but not useful to, the Protector Cromwell. They saved Charles the Second. They helped William the Third, and in all instances a *quid pro quo* in the shape of pecuniary solace was granted them. They have therefore been a most loyal body, as might have been anticipated. But they are not a rich body—and the one thing they cannot afford to pay for is spiritual instruction. They do their best—each of their congregations raises, by hook or by crook, or by cooked accounts, as much as 35*l.* a-year to entitle it to a

Government grant of 75*l.* a-year. But both sums put together make but a miserably insufficient stipend for a minister. They can hardly pledge their future loyalty, at least to a weak Whig administration, for such a trifle. If the Conservatives come into power, more may be expected of them. And more they must have. Let it be considered that the cost of living is higher than it was, that the civil, military, and colonial services present more lucrative openings to young men in these times than the Presbyterian ministry, and that even missionary societies carry off Presbyterian students by the greater remuneration they offer them than the churches at home. On these grounds they asked an increase of the *Regium Donum* to each class of recipients, and they hoped the aggregate augmentation would not much exceed 8,000*l.* a-year. The Lord Lieutenant maintained his suavity, and, what, perhaps, was a more difficult task for him, his gravity—"he feared the current of opinion was adverse at present to the increase of ecclesiastical endowments—he would take care to lay the views of the deputation before his colleagues in the Cabinet, but at the same time he could hold out no hope that their application would be granted."

We have given in the foregoing paragraph a free and jocular, but a substantially true *precis* of the paper which is reported to have been read to Earl Carlisle, as setting forth the grounds on which the Presbyterian Oliver Twist was not ashamed to "ask for more." The statement itself proceeds on the following assumptions—that loyalty is a marketable article and ought to fetch a higher price than it does; that Government ought to reward it by supplying those who exhibit it with spiritual means at the lowest possible cost to the congregations; that young men cannot be expected to preach the Gospel to the poor, if they can make more money by entering upon the service of the State; that churches too unaccustomed, and hence too disinclined, to support their religious teachers, ought to be protected against competition in the "talent market" by a sufficient State bounty; and that, if one Government will not so far acknowledge their wants and their rights, another may. Why, what a depth of demoralisation must these paupers have unconsciously reached, before they could make use of such pleas. Their own organs stand aghast at their worldliness; and the *Dublin Evening Post* doubts if there has been such an exhibition since the days of Simon Magus. Our astonishment is excited, not so much by the brazenfacedness, as by the marvellous insensibility to the higher proprieties of life and character, displayed in the memorial. They are naked, and they know it not. They are pauperised to the lips, and they see no harm in it. Unlike the unjust steward, "to beg they are not ashamed." It is not "for the love of God" either—it is because they have been beggars so long that they rather glory in their profession. They eat dirt because they have grown to like it. They resemble the savages who know not shame because they know not modesty. They make others blush, and wonder why. They are as impertinent and importunate in their requests for gifts, as some of the negro kings of whom Captain Speke gives us such a graphic account, and the only humiliation they are susceptible to is that of a refusal.

We are glad to observe that this "beggar's petition" does not command unqualified praise even from the Presbyterians of Ulster. Mr. Pollard-Urquhart, indeed, informed the Lord Lieutenant that "the Scotch Presbyterians thoroughly sympathised with the Irish Presbyterians on this question." Will the U. P. Church, or even the Free Church, endorse that statement? We should be surprised beyond expression if they did.

We have spoken pretty plainly of this deputation—but after all the Churches or Congregations whom they profess to represent are quite as much, if not worse, to blame for this mendicant spirit. We copy from an article in the forthcoming

Liberator the following summary of facts, and with this extract close our observations:—

Probably of all the claimants on the public purse the Irish Presbyterians are the most shameless. They are in the present receipt of about 40,000*l.* per annum from the public exchequer. The regulation with respect to this grant is that any congregation of twelve families that can raise from voluntary sources 35*l.* per annum shall be entitled to a *donum* from Government of 75*l.* The result of this regulation has been such as any one possessed of the smallest knowledge of human nature might have predicted. It has starved the hearts of the people, and kept the Irish Presbyterian ministry in a position only one degree less degraded than that of their flocks. To raise the Government minimum of 35*l.* a-year has been the one great aim of every endowed congregation. In 1854, when the last return on this subject was made to Parliament, there were, out of 461 congregations, only 183 which exceeded the sum of 36*l.* Devices of all kinds have been resorted to to obtain this minimum without being compelled to pay it. Thus, sums obtained from Home Missions, from donations, from salaries attached to various offices, such as gaol, military, and workhouse chaplaincies, have been put down to make up the 35*l.* But this body is equal to greater exigencies than these. The same return informed us that when a few pounds or shillings were wanting to enable a church to comply with the letter of the law, the exact deficiency was always supplied. In eleven cases the Synod Fund made it up; in one case a marriage license supplied it; in another the precise balance came out of the interest of manse; and so no fewer than eighty-two miraculously manage to raise 35*l.*, neither a penny more nor a penny less. The evasions of the law which have been resorted to by some members of this body scarcely bear reporting, or we could tell, as Mr. Bright told the House of Commons in 1854, of cases which are nothing less than a deliberate fraud upon the State. We all remember, too, what took place in 1848. In that year Government was applied to to forego the condition of the grant. The application was refused; but, because some congregations thought that it would be acceded to, they ceased at once to raise even 35*l.* a-year.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

THE Nonconformist Conference held on Wednesday last at Norwich, was, we are happy to say, equal to any of its predecessors. For breadth of view, for loftiness of aim, and for singleness of purpose, it will bear comparison with any meeting of its kind. It was an admirable representation of the Nonconformity of the Eastern Counties. In the full report of its proceedings which we give in our present number, the reader will notice one feature which has not been common to the previous conferences. Mr. Grimwade of Ipswich, and Mr. Tillet of Norwich, gave, each, an elaborate analysis of the state of the representation in their respective counties. The votes of the members in eighteen divisions that have taken place during the present Parliament, were reported. It would have been impossible to give a more remarkable proof of the absolute necessity for such action as the Liberation Society purposes, than was presented in the facts stated by Mr. Grimwade and Mr. Tillet. There, for instance, is Colonel Coke, who was returned on the pledge that he would vote for Sir John Trelawny's Bill, and who says he has fulfilled that pledge by voting for it once out of nine divisions. And there is also Mr. John Henry Gurney, another Liberal member, who has voted constantly against this measure. Summing up the state of the representation of Norfolk, Mr. Tillet showed that there were six Liberal members out of twelve, and that of these six, three were worse than useless. "Shall we," said the speaker, "go on in this way?" That is the question which every constituency will have to answer. Mr. Tillet promises that unless there is a very different understanding to that which they now have, the Whigs shall not again have the support of the Nonconformists of Norfolk. We believe that the Nonconformists will keep their word in this matter. They have, as is well known, the power to turn out every Gurney and Coke that has broken his pledged word, or that has deliberately gone over to the enemy's camp. We say, Let them be turned out, at any and every personal or party cost. Those who have sold the Nonconformist party have now been exposed in Norfolk alone; but there are some forty or more of the same kin in the country at large. But

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Eccliaistical Affairs.

PRESBYTERIAN PAUPERS.

WE beg pardon of the Presbyterian denomination, as such, for placing in juxtaposition the two words which make up the heading to the present article. We know of no necessary or natural connection between them. As they stand, they accurately describe the small band of persons on whose conduct we are about to animadvert—but they may suggest a much wider meaning than we intend or could justify. The Presbyterians in England are not a numerous body, but no one would ascribe to them either the spirit or the condition of paupers. The same remark will apply, with some exceptions, to the Presbyterians of Scotland. For ourselves, we should have drawn a distinction between one class and another of the Presbyterians in Ireland—but when we see a deputation to the Lord-Lieutenant, professedly representing "the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ireland," and sturdily begging an increase of the *Regium Donum*, in consideration of the virtues and the woes of the Presbyterian body, what else can we call them but what, with great reluctance, we have done? Be it understood, then, that in using the term "Presbyterian" as descriptive of these mendicants, we are well aware that, despite their pompous description of the Assembly they profess to represent, there are more than a hundred congregations of Presbyterians in Ireland which do not own their authority, and even of these, fifty, at least, are free from the vice of living upon the public.

This, however, by way of prelude merely. We now come to our theme. On Thursday last a numerous and influential deputation of what was described as "the Irish branch of the Presbyterian Church," headed by the Rev. J. Rogers, Moderator of the General Assembly, and accompanied by Lord Cremorne, Lord Dufferin, and four or five members of Parliament, waited upon the Lord Lieutenant at Dublin Castle, to submit to him a modest request for an increase of the *Regium Donum*. These gentlemen, for the most part clergymen and doctors of divinity, submitted a statement of facts as the basis of their appeal, such, probably, as no other men in the world would have made use of in furtherance of such an object. The Presbyterians of Ulster, it seems, have distinguished themselves by the impartial service they have rendered to Sovereigns and to Governments. They were useful to Charles the First—they were indulged by, but not useful to, the Protector Cromwell. They saved Charles the Second. They helped William the Third, and in all instances a *quid pro quo* in the shape of pecuniary solace was granted them. They have therefore been a most loyal body, as might have been anticipated. But they are not a rich body—and the one thing they cannot afford to pay for is spiritual instruction. They do their best—each of their congregations raises, by hook or by crook, or by cooked accounts, as much as 35*l.* a-year to entitle it to a

Government grant of 75*l.* a-year. But both sums put together make but a miserably insufficient stipend for a minister. They can hardly pledge their future loyalty, at least to a weak Whig administration, for such a trifle. If the Conservatives come into power, more may be expected of them. And more they must have. Let it be considered that the cost of living is higher than it was, that the civil, military, and colonial services present more lucrative openings to young men in these times than the Presbyterian ministry, and that even missionary societies carry off Presbyterian students by the greater remuneration they offer them than the churches at home. On these grounds they asked an increase of the *Regium Donum* to each class of recipients, and they hoped the aggregate augmentation would not much exceed 8,000*l.* a-year. The Lord Lieutenant maintained his suavity, and, what, perhaps, was a more difficult task for him, his gravity—"he feared the current of opinion was adverse at present to the increase of ecclesiastical endowments—he would take care to lay the views of the deputation before his colleagues in the Cabinet, but at the same time he could hold out no hope that their application would be granted."

We have given in the foregoing paragraph a free and jocular, but a substantially true *precis* of the paper which is reported to have been read to Earl Carlisle, as setting forth the grounds on which the Presbyterian Oliver Twist was not ashamed to "ask for more." The statement itself proceeds on the following assumptions—that loyalty is a marketable article and ought to fetch a higher price than it does; that Government ought to reward it by supplying those who exhibit it with spiritual means at the lowest possible cost to the congregations; that young men cannot be expected to preach the Gospel to the poor, if they can make more money by entering upon the service of the State; that churches too unaccustomed, and hence too disinclined, to support their religious teachers, ought to be protected against competition in the "talent market" by a sufficient State bounty; and that, if one Government will not so far acknowledge their wants and their rights, another may. Why, what a depth of demoralisation must these paupers have unconsciously reached, before they could make use of such pleas. Their own organs stand aghast at their worldliness; and the *Dublin Evening Post* doubts if there has been such an exhibition since the days of Simon Magus. Our astonishment is excited, not so much by the brazenfacedness, as by the marvellous insensibility to the higher proprieties of life and character, displayed in the memorial. They are naked, and they know it not. They are pauperised to the lips, and they see no harm in it. Unlike the unjust steward, "to beg they are not ashamed." It is not "for the love of God" either—it is because they have been beggars so long that they rather glory in their profession. They eat dirt because they have grown to like it. They resemble the savages who know not shame because they know not modesty. They make others blush, and wonder why. They are as impertinent and importunate in their requests for gifts, as some of the negro kings of whom Captain Speke gives us such a graphic account, and the only humiliation they are susceptible to is that of a refusal.

We are glad to observe that this "beggar's petition" does not command unqualified praise even from the Presbyterians of Ulster. Mr. Pollard-Urquhart, indeed, informed the Lord Lieutenant that "the Scotch Presbyterians thoroughly sympathised with the Irish Presbyterians on this question." Will the U. P. Church, or even the Free Church, endorse that statement? We should be surprised beyond expression if they did.

We have spoken pretty plainly of this deputation—but after all the Churches or Congregations whom they profess to represent are quite as much, if not worse, to blame for this mendicant spirit. We copy from an article in the forthcoming

Liberator the following summary of facts, and with this extract close our observations:—

Probably of all the claimants on the public purse the Irish Presbyterians are the most shameless. They are in the present receipt of about 40,000*l.* per annum from the public exchequer. The regulation with respect to this grant is that any congregation of twelve families that can raise from voluntary sources 35*l.* per annum shall be entitled to a *donum* from Government of 75*l.* The result of this regulation has been such as any one possessed of the smallest knowledge of human nature might have predicted. It has starved the hearts of the people, and kept the Irish Presbyterian ministry in a position only one degree less degraded than that of their flocks. To raise the Government minimum of 35*l.* a-year has been the one great aim of every endowed congregation. In 1854, when the last return on this subject was made to Parliament, there were, out of 461 congregations, only 283 which exceeded the sum of 36*l.* Devices of all kinds have been resorted to to obtain this minimum without being compelled to pay it. Thus, sums obtained from Home Missions, from donations, from salaries attached to various offices, such as gaol, military, and workhouse chaplaincies, have been put down to make up the 35*l.* But this body is equal to greater exigencies than these. The same return informed us that when a few pounds or shillings were wanting to enable a church to comply with the letter of the law, the exact deficiency was always supplied. In eleven cases the Synod Fund made it up; in one case a marriage license supplied it; in another the precise balance came out of the interest of manse; and so no fewer than eighty-two miraculously manage to raise 35*l.*, neither a penny more nor a penny less. The evasions of the law which have been resorted to by some members of this body scarcely bear reporting, or we could tell, as Mr. Bright told the House of Commons in 1854, of cases which are nothing less than a deliberate fraud upon the State. We all remember, too, what took place in 1848. In that year Government was applied to to forego the condition of the grant. The application was refused; but, because some congregations thought that it would be acceded to, they ceased at once to raise even 35*l.* a-year.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

THE Nonconformist Conference held on Wednesday last at Norwich, was, we are happy to say, equal to any of its predecessors. For breadth of view, for loftiness of aim, and for singleness of purpose, it will bear comparison with any meeting of its kind. It was an admirable representation of the Nonconformity of the Eastern Counties. In the full report of its proceedings which we give in our present number, the reader will notice one feature which has not been common to the previous conferences. Mr. Grimwade of Ipswich, and Mr. Tillet of Norwich, gave, each, an elaborate analysis of the state of the representation in their respective counties. The votes of the members in eighteen divisions that have taken place during the present Parliament, were reported. It would have been impossible to give a more remarkable proof of the absolute necessity for such action as the Liberation Society purposes, than was presented in the facts stated by Mr. Grimwade and Mr. Tillet. There, for instance, is Colonel Coke, who was returned on the pledge that he would vote for Sir John Trelawny's Bill, and who says he has fulfilled that pledge by voting for it once out of nine divisions. And there is also Mr. John Henry Gurney, another Liberal member, who has voted constantly against this measure. Summing up the state of the representation of Norfolk, Mr. Tillet showed that there were six Liberal members out of twelve, and that of these six, three were worse than useless. "Shall we," said the speaker, "go on in this way?" That is the question which every constituency will have to answer. Mr. Tillet promises that unless there is a very different understanding to that which they now have, the Whigs shall not again have the support of the Nonconformists of Norfolk. We believe that the Nonconformists will keep their word in this matter. They have, as is well known, the power to turn out every Gurney and Coke that has broken his pledged word, or that has deliberately gone over to the enemy's camp. We say, Let them be turned out, at any and every personal or party cost. Those who have sold the Nonconformist party have now been exposed in Norfolk alone; but there are some forty or more of the same kin in the country at large. But

for these men, who were elected on the supposition that, at any rate they would keep their word, the question of religious liberty would have made very different progress. Are they to be trusted a second time? Are Dissenters to be befooled again, and again, and again?

The Suffolk members presented, as Mr. Grimwade showed, a scarcely more creditable figure. Out of the nine members returned by the county and boroughs of Suffolk, the Nonconformists get two votes. This county does not present so gross an illustration of political profligacy as does Norfolk; but will any friend of religious liberty say that the representation is satisfactory? The Nonconformists of Suffolk have probably the power of determining that some two or three sham Liberals shall not sit again. They have time now to consult and organise, and we hope that this will be the result of their deliberations.

The Norwich Conference—perhaps because it is seen that the movement is extending to quarters where it may be productive of some special mischief to party interests or family claims—has attracted an unusual degree of attention from the general press. The *Times* has now, for the first time, noticed the movement, and the *Globe* has assailed it. The *Globe* writes of it exactly as it used to write of the Corn-law League. It threatens a disturbance of the old Whig party, and it must therefore be put down. This is the manner in which a Reform Club writer looks at it:—

To most people the resolutions come to at Norwich will appear to be a desire for mere vengeance dictated by impotence. Having failed to convince a majority of men that the subversion of so many institutions is a desirable thing, this Liberation Society goes abroad to compel. For our parts, we have the strongest belief that the constituencies will not submit to that sort of menace, still less to make the whole round of their political aims subordinate to the accomplishment of certain fanciful theories of domestic policy in a limited area of the State. Whatever may be the issue for the Liberal party of this tremendous sentence of extinction passed upon it at Norwich by this fraction of the great body of Dissenters, the said fraction may be assured that the Liberal party will be more faithful to their duty to England, and more amenable to conscience, than these persons think possible.

"Old Whigs," as Sydney Smith remarked, are all "wall-eyed," and can only see one thing at a time. This thing is usually "the constitution," which is perfection itself, until it is necessary to find flaws in it in order to get it into office. Then the flaws take their turn, but as soon as they occupy the other side of the House the wall-eye is, of course, presented to the flaws, and a keen and admiring sight turned upon "the constitution."

The *John Bull* also falls foul of the Conference, being of the opinion that the Nonconformists have now "lost their prestige," and that "men's eyes are opened" to their designs. It further ironically tenders to them its sympathy for having been "green enough to believe that the Liberals would ever in office fulfil the pledges by means of which they obtained it." We commend this sentence to the respectful consideration of those over whom the Whig spell has not yet lost its virtue or influence.

The bishops are summoned to a council. We learn from the *Record* that the Archbishop of Canterbury has invited all the prelates of England and Ireland, and such of the colonial bishops as are now in England, to meet at Lambeth Palace on Wednesday next, "to confer on six subjects important to the welfare of the Church, the chief of which are Diocesan Synods, the Burial Service, Subscription to the Articles, and an American proposal to amend the English Authorised Version of the Bible." There are a few men of some culture and breadth of judgment on the Episcopal bench, but no one can anticipate that a conference of all the bishops will result in anything but the adoption of the course most calculated to bring Christianity into contempt. The class that held silence on the Slave-trade question—the class that held longest by, and voted last for, hanging a man for stealing five shillings' worth of goods—the class that resisted almost to a man the Reform Bill and the Anti-Corn-Law Bill—the class that has administered the Ecclesiastical Commission,—what hope can men possibly have of such?

Dean Stanley is not allowed to enjoy his honours in quietness. An address to Lord Palmerston from the clergy and laity of the county of Dorset is in course of signature. Towards the close the address assumes the character of a protest, the parties stating that they "solemnly protest against the position, now for the first time sought to be established, viz., that the infallibility of our Blessed Lord, and the plenary inspiration of His Prophets, Apostles, and Evangelists, are to be regarded as open questions, not disqualifying those who impugn them for places of trust and influence in the Church." This is strong language, and as open as it is strong. But

what is Lord Palmerston to do? What do you think? The clergy and laity of the county of Dorset address his lordship as the bulwark of orthodoxy, and as possessing full and plenary power to save the Established Church from infidelity. This, therefore, is what the gay and jocund Premier is asked to do:—"We earnestly entreat your lordship to use your influence to shield us from the rationalistic infidelity that is setting in upon us." So Lord Palmerston is to do it all? Ah! He is the Jumbo Jumbo of the Evangelical party. He it is, it seems, who holds in his hands the thoughts of men, and can direct them whither he will. He can make persons heterodox or orthodox, just as he pleases. He can shield the whole of Dorsetshire from "rationalistic infidelity." Was it a Dorsetshire labourer who proposed to shut the farmyard-gate to keep out the lightning? But were ever Christian men driven to so degrading a course, or so humiliating a declaration as this? If those clergymen believe what they say, why do they not bring the Court chaplain to trial?

To trial—just as Bishop Colenso has been brought. We have read the proceedings in this case, which have taken place at Capetown. One word concerning them. The Bishop has had, as far as a man can have in his absence and without making a defence, an able and fair trial, but it is yet a very doubtful point whether the tribunal that summoned him to appear before them, was competent to try him. We should be sorry to find that it was, but we should be more sorry to find public opinion sustaining the Bishop in his position. The Church journals, we notice, again call upon him, as an honourable man, to resign his office. They, however, unfortunately, have little to plead. We think that the Evangelicals cannot cast a stone at him, for are they more consistent? But the establishment of an irresponsible ecclesiastical power in our colonial dependencies, is what no Englishmen cares to see, and what the colonists themselves would not very long brook. It is to be hoped, therefore, that the Bishop will succeed in his appeal. His books will find their own level, and whether he remain bishop or not, be heard of very little in the course of another year.

The Edinburgh Town Council continue their ecclesiastical prosecutions. On Friday last some twenty-five more persons were summoned for non-payment. On the same day the goods of several recusants were attached. A fortnight ago we called attention to the seizure of a bed from under a corpse. The Church extends its arms, however, literally from "the cradle to the grave." On Saturday, a little baby was made the victim—the officers of the law having seized, in one house, a crib out of which a lady had just lifted her baby, "with its little sheets and quilts and blankets." We should like to have seen that mother when her child's cradle was "pounded." Is there no Cruikshank who will draw the two scenes of the coffin and the cradle? And is Gerald Massey's voice now silent? There is silence as yet; but, if we mistake not, there will yet, too, be a storm before which stouter men than those of Edinburgh might quail, and yet be men.

CONFERENCE OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY AT NORWICH.

(From the *Norfolk News*.)

On Wednesday last, one of a series of District Conferences, intended to advance the objects of the "Liberation Society," was held in the Lecture-room of the Free Library, in this city. It was convened by a circular signed by several influential gentlemen connected with various denominations in the counties of Norfolk and Suffolk. There was a numerous attendance, and among those present were the Revs. T. M. Morris (Ipswich), W. F. Clarkson (Colchester), J. Browne (Wrentham), R. Lewis (Lowestoft), W. Woods (Swaffham), W. Griffiths, (Yarmouth), W. T. Price (Yarmouth), J. Anderson (Wymondham), B. May (Buxton), H. Kiddle (Mattishall), J. T. Wigner (Lynn), T. G. Andrews (Hingham), J. Venimore (Ingham), W. F. Gooch (Foulham), J. Colman (Yarmouth), F. Baeden (Denton), H. Cope (Watton), J. Hasler (Neatishead), T. A. Wheller, G. Gould, J. Hallet, P. Colborne, R. Chew, C. H. Hosken, E. Shields, and R. Key, of Norwich; Messrs. John Neve (Tuddenham), W. Barley (Theburton), W. P. Brown (Yarmouth), Manning Prentice (Stowmarket), E. Grimwade (Ipswich), S. Prentice (Stowmarket), T. Lindsey (Swaffham), C. W. H. Cozens-Hardy (Cley), W. T. Fisher

(Yarmouth), Garson Blake (Yarmouth), W. Chater (Lowestoft), A. J. N. Chamberlin (Wroxham), G. Crabbe (Oulton), W. Neave (Bacton), R. Cooke (Stalham), J. Gambling (Buxton), James Rivett (Yarmouth), J. Culley (Cossey); J. J. Colman, J. W. Dowson, T. Brightwell, J. H. Tillet, W. F. Paul, J. Copeman, H. Massingham, C. Darkens, J. D. Smith, E. T. Harner, S. Pigg, J. B. Allen, Messrs. Jarrold, Messrs. Tillyard, &c., of Norwich. Edward Miall, Esq., and J. Carvell Williams, Esq., of London, attended as a deputation from the Executive of the Society.

On the motion of the Rev. R. LEWIS, of Lowestoft, seconded by Mr. W. F. PAUL, of Norwich, Mr. Grimwade, of Ipswich, was called to the chair, and on the motion of Mr. J. D. SMITH, of Norwich, seconded by the Rev. J. D. WIGNER, of Lynn, the Rev. W. Woods, of Swaffham, and Mr. John Copeman, of Norwich, were requested to act as secretaries to the Conference.

Mr. GRIMWADE, having taken the chair, said that his adoption of the views of the Liberation Society was not of yesterday. For five-and-twenty years he had been an adherent of the principles which they were met to-day to advocate, and at that very period he was a Norfolk man, having been a resident in Norfolk for several years. It was in a little town in Norfolk where he had the pleasure, for the first time very unexpectedly, of meeting with their friend Mr. Miall, and in the quiet parlour of a house in the little town of Harleston, he believed he might say the birth of the *Nonconformist* took place. He happened to be at this birth, and he held that a man who had been at the birth of the *Nonconformist* need not make any apology for presiding over a Liberation Society meeting. (Applause.) In this little parlour at Harleston they discussed the whole question, and he thought he might say that it was determined there that the *Nonconformist* should come into the world. He had been a constant reader of that paper ever since, and he was sure he would be supported by every gentleman present when he said that, looking at their position five-and-twenty years ago, and looking at it this morning, they had every reason very heartily to congratulate themselves and each other on the altered and improved aspect of affairs. (Hear, hear.) Then, this question had to be spoken of with a kind of bated breath, or a man would be cashiered from what is ordinarily called genteel society. It was considered to be opening up a rupture which would tell very terribly at least on the social position of this our happy country. Nonconformists were then met, as they were still by some few timid friends, with the caution—"You had better say nothing about it." (Laughter.) Mr. Miall did not believe in that doctrine, and took upon himself to say something on this question, and he need not remark that he had said that something remarkably well, and he thought their congratulation at their altered position was very much to be attributed to Mr. Miall. (Hear, hear.) If this had been a mere political question, he (the speaker) was not sure that he should have been prepared to go through what he had in order to advocate his principles; but he believed that it was a question lying at the bottom of the most important questions of this country. He therefore gave his cordial adhesion to its principles, and had never felt disposed to deviate from them. (Cheers.) Some few of their friends were inclined to take a somewhat desponding view of their position, but he had the pleasure of attending the conference lately held in London, where there were gentlemen from all parts of the country who were not inclined to despond. (Cheers.) The chairman, after some further remarks, called upon Mr. Miall to read his paper on the "Future Parliamentary and Electoral Action of the Liberation Society." (Applause.)

[To give Mr. Miall's elaborate paper greater prominence, we (*Norfolk News*) have put it alongside our editorial columns.]

Mr. J. H. TILLET (Norwich) was then called upon by the chairman to move the first resolution. He said that he purposed to speak plainly and simply just what he believed on the subject they were met to discuss. He would first read the resolution:—

That, looking to the recent rejection by the Legislature of all measures which have in any degree recognised the principle of religious equality, and to the fact that the advocates of that principle have never yet fully exerted on its behalf that electoral influence which they unquestionably possess, this conference regards with great satisfaction the determination of the Executive Committee of the Liberation Society to urge on their supporters the duty of immediate preparation for the next general election, by requiring the insertion in the programme of Liberal candidates of such measures tending towards religious equality as may fairly be insisted upon at the present time; regard being had, in the demands upon candidates, to the numerical strength of the electors by whom they are made, and support being withheld where such demands are not conceded.

Standing there as a Norfolk or Norwich man, he would first look at the position of the county in a Liberal point of view. In Norwich they returned two good men, who, he believed, were not even found fault with by the advanced Liberals of the city, and who had voted pretty consistently and constantly. (Hear, hear.) He would therefore turn from the city of Norwich to the county of Norfolk. The eastern division was represented by Mr. Howes, Conservative, and Colonel Coke, a Liberal, as he was called. When Colonel Coke came forward, some of them declined to promise him their support till he had given a written declaration of his principles on the Church-rate question. Colonel Coke

promised to vote for Sir John Trelawny's bill, and thereupon they came forward and most unquestionably carried him. If they had sat still, Colonel Coke would never have been member for Norfolk; if they had only supported him languidly he would never have been returned. (Hear, hear.) Colonel Coke voted on the first occasion for Sir John Trelawny's bill. He voted for it but once, and then avowed that he had performed his pledge; that he never said he would vote for it more than once, and that he had done all he promised to do. (Hisses.) He said further that he had been frightened by certain evidence given in the House of Lords—certain terrible evidence—and that that had altogether altered the views he had entertained. From that time forward he had never given us his support on that question, and had voted against us on some other questions. He said deliberately that Colonel Coke having pursued this course had obtained our votes by false pretences. (Hear, hear.) It was allowable to Colonel Coke to alter his opinions, but another thing was also allowable to him—to resign his seat. At all events it was allowable for them not to record a single vote for him if he came to them again. (Loud cheers.) He would prefer to see anybody that was brought forward elected rather than Colonel Coke, for if we suffered by the loss of his Liberal votes on some questions we should on the other hand gain in the emphatic mark of reprobation we should fix upon him. (Applause.) Therefore, he said—"No more Coke for East Norfolk." (Renewed applause.) With regard to the other member, Mr. Howes, he had voted straight throughout on every question for his party, and against every measure that had been brought forward in furtherance of our principles; so there was a Conservative voting for his own party on all questions, and a Liberal voting against us on several, and not voting at all on the rest. Mr. Tillet then proceeded to remark that Mr. Bentinck, a member for West Norfolk, was one of the fifty who stuck to Protection after the rest of the world had given it up, and were denominated in consequence "cannon-balls." Mr. Gurdon, the other member, was a very amiable man, who paid the greatest attention to the poor about him, and who was personally much respected, but as for representing our principles, he had never voted on the great questions which we held so important. They had a "cannon-ball" on one side, and what he might term, by way of contrast, without meaning any personal offence whatever, a "Norfolk dumpling" on the other. (Cheers and laughter.) At Lynn there was a very curious state of things. Every man in the county had the strongest personal regard for John Henry Gurney, but it was difficult to understand what in the world had of late bewitched the man, that he should be the only Liberal member who voted against Sir John Trelawny's bill. Mr. Tillet then remarked that the other member for Lynn, Lord Stanley, was a really noble man—(Hear, hear), who, though nominally a Conservative, voted for many Liberal measures, and this was, to some extent, a compensation for the unsatisfactory state of things there. In regard to the borough of Thetford, Mr. Tillet observed there was nothing particular to remark, except that one member was a very consistent Conservative, while the other had only recently been elected, and we might comfort ourselves with the hope that he would go on straight. At Yarmouth there were two out-and-out Tories. They were not, however, always out-and-out men, for Sir Edward Lacon once had a crochot on Church-rates, and voted for Sir John Trelawny's bill, but the Tories turned the screw on him, and would not let him do so again. (Laughter.) There was a strong screw on the Conservative side, and if a member from any motive of conscience voted for us, they came down upon him, and squeezed out what little Liberalism there was in him. The second member, Sir Henry Stracey, astonished the Tory party some time ago by declaring himself for the ballot, but his party got all the Liberalism out of him too very quickly. The two men now went steadily against them, voting on every division with their own friends. They had, therefore, twelve members in Norfolk, and if Norfolk was a sample of the rest of the country, what a miserable condition they were in! Out of those twelve members they had managed by hard fighting to get in six, and out of those six, three were not worth a snap of the fingers. (Hear, hear.) Were they to go on in that way? The Whigs could not carry a man without their help. They could not even carry Norwich without their thorough and enthusiastic support; and he told them frankly that unless they had a very different understanding to what they now had, their warm and earnest support they should not have again. (Loud cheers.) They had learnt the lesson, that the "powers that be" were not to be operated upon by argument, but as soon as they could make them know that their tenure of office depended on their conduct, there would be no need of argument. (Hear, hear.) They wanted to let them know this as soon as they could. They were no nearer the abolition of Church-rates than they were at the childhood of some of us. He considered the religious question to be the highest one, for if they wanted religion to permeate the masses, they must remove from it its political and ecclesiastical incumbrances. There would be no religious life in the country districts, no co-operation of good men for the good of all, until these obstacles, which caused so much heartburning and dissension among them, were removed. (Applause.) A gentleman living in a country place had that morning called upon him, having had his goods distrained to pay for the sacrament wine of the parish church. Was it not

an outrageous thing that gentry who went to church with a footman behind them carrying their gilt-edged prayer-books should condescend to drink wine, on the most solemn occasion, the money for which had been distrained from the property of some poor honest Dissenter. (Great applause.) Mr. Tillet, after a few more remarks, concluded by moving the resolution.

Mr. SAMUEL PRENTICE, of Stowmarket, briefly seconded the motion.

The CHAIRMAN said he should like to review Suffolk in the manner in which Mr. Tillet had reviewed Norfolk. They had nine members in Suffolk, and out of that nine he was sorry to say that they could not claim so large a portion as they had in Norfolk. In Suffolk the four county members were out-and-out Tories, who went dead against anything of a liberal tendency. At Ipswich they had one Liberal member (Mr. Adair), and he was so good a man that he was not disposed to find much fault with him. At Bury one member, Lord Alfred Hervey, had voted with them, which was more than could be expected from a Conservative. Lastly, there was Eye, where they had Sir Edward Kerrison, and they all knew how he voted.

Mr. CLEMENT W. H. COZENS-HARDY, of Cley, expressed his determination not to vote for Colonel Coke again; and suggested that some Liberal gentleman well known in the county, such as Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, should come forward and contest the eastern division on principle, and he did not think that Colonel Coke would then go to a contest. He took exception to some part of Mr. Miall's paper. For his own part, he was not prepared to agree with Mr. Miall that they should sacrifice the annual discussion in Parliament on Church-rates, and he trusted that the conference would urge on some Liberal member to bring forward the matter in the House of Commons in the ensuing session. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. MIALL said his suggestion was only intended to apply during the existence of the present House of Parliament.

Mr. A. J. N. CHAMBERLIN said he thought their chief solicitude should be with respect to future operations. He asked why a man like their friend Mr. Tillet should not be sent to Parliament? (Cheers.) After a few remarks in the same vein, he expressed a hope that Mr. Tillet would allow himself to be nominated somewhere at the next general election. (Applause.)

The Rev. T. M. MORRIS (Ipswich) thought that one question that ought to be considered at this meeting was, as to what should be done with the Dissenters themselves. He believed the Dissenters might be divided into two parties, the first which were ready to go forward and work and get a position, and the second consisted of those who would not themselves work, but would enter upon what the former had won as an army of occupation. He said that the possible Conservative reaction of which so many talked he anticipated with very little dread, inasmuch as he believed that one of the consequences of it, should it take place, would be to compel many to stand by their principles more resolutely, and assert them more emphatically, than they had been used to do.

The Rev. T. A. WHEELER, of Norwich, wished to say a little on another side of the question. The result of withholding their votes from the Liberal members would be to throw into office the Conservative Government, the result of which would be that the Church-rate question might be definitely settled by throwing it upon the Consolidated Fund. They must remember that they had won their privileges not from their own strength, but from the gradual influence they had brought to bear upon the Liberal party. He believed that half a loaf was better than no bread.

Mr. J. D. SMITH, of Norwich, said that the Nonconformists had been looking for help from others from time immemorial, and had now got tired of doing so, and intended to act for themselves.

Mr. R. TILLYARD, of Norwich, thought that the question mooted by Mr. Wheeler was a very important one. They wanted genuine earnest men in the House of Commons. They wanted such men as the Dillwyns, the Trelawnys, and the Mialls; and then the Lord Palmerstons might go. He thought they should one and all come out like men and do their duty consistently.

The Rev. G. GOULD said that in the House of Commons as at present constituted they had no one who stood out as fit to represent their Nonconformist principles. He thought the sooner this fact was recognised, the better it would be. It was kind of Sir John Trelawny to bring forward their bill year after year, but he was by conviction a member of the Established Church. He acted as a matter of kindly consideration, and not as a matter of abstract justice, in which alone he could fitly represent the members of this society. He thought this state of things ought to be remedied, and that it was a discredit to the Dissenting community of England that Mr. Miall had not a seat in the House of Commons. He thought men ought to be there who would support their views because their religious convictions were in accordance with the principles on which their hearts were all set. Such men would be faithful to their principles to the very last. It would be infinitely better to have one or two men in the House of Commons who would set forth and vindicate their policy before the world, rather than give their support to men who were quite ready to accept their views upon the hustings, but who would take care to give them a kick when called upon to act afterwards. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. T. JARROLD thought that the members of both the House of Commons and the House of Lords were getting tired of the subject of Church-rates, and that

it was mere political necessity that rendered them accessible to the screw. He thought at the present crisis the members of the society should take a decided course.

Mr. J. FLETCHER (Norwich) thought that if they were to act out the principles of liberation, they must familiarise their minds to the idea of letting in the Tories. The old policy had been to vote for the man who under all circumstances was the best. He thought if the candidate did not represent the truth as it appeared to them, the right policy would be not to give him their votes.

Mr. MIALL referred to Mr. Gould's suggestion that his (Mr. Miall's) absence from Parliament was discreditable to the Dissenting body. He did not agree that it was so; he had been the leader of the movement for many years, and could never expect to be put forward without attracting to himself opposition even where there would have been none to another candidate holding the same principles as he did. He neither expected nor desired to go into Parliament, but in his opinion this question of their representatives was the most important that had been broached during the discussion. (Hear, hear.) They had incurred a habit of supposing it to be rather a laughable thing that gentlemen in the social position of himself, Mr. Tillet, and others he might name, should think of being members for their own borough or county. They did great wrong in not encouraging gentlemen whose mind, intellect, and cultivation would do great service to their cause in the House of Commons not to aspire to the position of member. (Hear, hear.) He believed that there was a great deal of snobbery among Dissenters, who if the candidness presented the alternative of a man with large wealth and some rank, but no mind, and one who was just the man Nonconformists wanted for the presentation of their principles, many Nonconformists would think the balance ought to incline towards social station. (Hear, hear.) Whilst Nonconformists retained that impression, depend upon it they would not make much way. He believed it was a law of Providence, and always true in the long run, that people would not obtain on behalf of their principles more than they deserved. If Nonconformists did not make some self-sacrifice, they would not make much progress. (Cheers.) Dissenters should play the man for their own principles—(Hear, hear)—not thrust them upon anybody else, but simply say, "This is our opinion, these are our principles, and we intend to hold by them." But if twenty men banded themselves together for one common principle, their power would be more felt than that of any one individual. Dissenters could do their principles no harm by the policy which was proposed to be adopted in Parliament and at elections, and they could do themselves no special good by trailing in company with those who held their principles in utter contempt. (Cheers.) If Dissenters were out off from the Liberal party it was because they had supplied a test which fairly showed that the Liberals were not agreed on the principles which they held to be the most important to be advanced in the country. The Dissenters were walking with the Whigs towards a certain end, the general political liberation of the country, but the Whigs had appropriated all the benefits of the union, and gave the Dissenters nothing. Was that a position which Nonconformists could hold with any self-respect? There was but one side of the question to Nonconformists, because throughout the country almost the whole body were writhing under a sense of displeasure and disgust at the contemptuous treatment they were receiving from their friends, or rather representatives, in Parliament. (Hear, hear.) Under these circumstances, Nonconformists must come to the conclusion that their friends had been wrong, and that they ought to set them right. That was the real gist of the whole thing. (Applause.) If they only took their ground firmly, he believed the Liberal party would accede to what they wanted. He knew a little of what occurred behind the scenes of the House of Commons, and he believed that there were very few men who did not admit in private that the principles of the Liberation Society were all true enough, but were fifty years before the time. (Applause.) With reference to the remarks of his friend Mr. Hardy on the Church-rate question, he believed that in the country those who were really suffering on behalf of their principles might feel discouraged if the subject was withdrawn from Parliament; but the association was of opinion that after a general election had occurred, then was the time to resume Parliamentary efforts on behalf of the Church-rate question. He had himself received great encouragement from the meeting, and he expected to see something more result from it than the resolution before them. He trusted that there would be on the part of every person a serious consideration leading to the full determination that if possible a better class of men should be chosen for representatives. (Hear, hear.) They did not need to inflict any humiliation on the Whigs, but they must let them know beforehand that they meant to take a certain course if they did not give them what they required. If this were done, he did not think that there would be found such an immense objection to their propositions as some people imagined. His belief was that the Liberal party, distinct from the high Whigs, would be much obliged to them for infusing fresh life into their body, for unless they had such fresh life, it was very certain they would die of inanition. (Great applause.)

The CHAIRMAN then put the resolution which was before the meeting, and declared it unanimously carried.

Mr. CARVELL WILLIAMS then introduced the sub

ject of "Parochial Agitation for the Abolition of Church-rates." He said that while it might, at first sight, appear discouraging that after thirty years of effort Parliament had not yet abolished the exaction, on the other hand there was the compensatory fact, that the work of abolition had been going on all the while. That was conclusively proved by all the Parliamentary returns on the subject. In 1829, when Church-rates were generally levied, they produced as much as 519,000*l.*, but in the seven years ending 1858, the average amount had, in 10,200 parishes, fallen as low as 248,838*l.*; while in 1862 it yielded in 12,408 parishes only 232,905*l.*, a much larger number of parishes yielding a much smaller amount. (Hear, hear.) The same result was arrived at in another way; for while in 1856 only 1,130 parishes out of 8,672 were returned as not making rates, in 1858 the number had reached 1,606, and in 1862, 3,274, or double the number four years before. Instead, therefore, of its being the fact, as had been recklessly asserted, that 95 out of every 100 parishes granted Church-rates, the percentage of parishes not making rates was 26, and even those figures did not include rates which were practically voluntary, because they were not enforced. On looking into the return of local taxation for the year ending June, 1862, he found that the number of parishes making a return in the diocese of Norwich was 980, and that in 176 of them rates were not made. That was not so satisfactory as the return in some other parts of the kingdom, as the number of non-rate-making parishes was only 19 instead of 26 per cent. He had been struck with the smallness of the sums for which rates were made in that diocese. The total sum in 804 parishes was but 9,086*l.*, or not 11*l.* per parish, while the ordinary repairs of the churches and churchyards cost but 7*l.* 3*s.* per parish. There were 104 parishes in which the repairs amounted to less than 1*l.*, and 210 in which it was less than 2*l.* There were also some parishes in which rates were actually made for sums of 3*l.* or 4*l.*, and in one there was a rate for less than 2*l.* Nothing could more strikingly show the paltriness of the whole system, or the ease with which Churchmen might, if they chose, dispense with taxation for religious purposes. He concluded by insisting that, not only should they carry on the work of parochial agitation more vigorously than ever, but that they should turn it to good account, by making it a means of advancing the "ulterior aims" of the Liberation Society. Let them resolve that for every shilling, every hour, and every particle of energy expended on the Church-rate agitation, they would, in that way, exact ample compensation; and then, when Parliament abolished Church-rates, as it assuredly would, they might say, "My Lords and Gentlemen, we thank you! We have extracted from this apple of discord all the good it could possibly yield to us: let it now be cast away for ever." (Great applause.)

Mr. GABSON BLAKE (of Yarmouth) then proposed the following resolution:—

That, as the refusal of Parliament to abolish Church-rates has rendered necessary the continuance and extension of parochial agitation, this conference earnestly recommends all rate-payers who are opposed to the exaction to labour with fresh energy for its extinction in their own parishes; and it particularly urges the discharge of this duty on the abolitionists of this diocese, in which the agitation has hitherto been less vigorous than in some other parts of the kingdom. The conference further recommends the friends of Voluntaryism to avail themselves increasingly of the valuable opportunities afforded by vestry contests for furthering the ultimate aim of this society—the abandonment of all compulsory means for the maintenance of religion.

In the town in which he himself lived they had only two parishes, and in them they had applied the medicine suggested in the resolution so effectively that they had purged both of them of Church-rates. They had been so successful there that he supposed they considered he was a proper person to urge the subject upon the attention of others. It was, however, a sad fact that upon other points they had been very unsuccessful, for they could not get a Churchman to meet them upon any occasion. He believed that this very wrong state of things existed in some measure because the Dissenters had not shown sufficient self-respect. He believed the idea put forth by Mr. Miall was a good one, and that if they sent any one to Parliament they ought to send really good men. He, for one, had made up his mind that if he could not vote for a man who would not go for the abolition of Church-rates, he would not vote at all. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. CRABBE (Oulton) seconded the resolution.

A conversation then ensued upon the subject of the resolution, in which Mr. Browne (of Wrentham), the Rev. J. T. Wigner (of Lynn), the Chairman, and others took part. Mr. Wigner speaking of the power which Dissenters possessed of opposing the Church-rates in vestries. He was confident that, if four or five Dissenters could be found who would go and oppose the rate at the parish meeting, it could not be carried.

The resolution was then adopted unanimously.

The Rev. T. A. WHEELER proposed the next resolution:—

That, looking to the present state of the Church as by law established, and the anxiety of an increasing number of its members to be freed from the legislative restrictions now necessarily imposed upon them, the Conference deems it to be the special duty of Voluntaryists widely to circulate publications adapted to influence the minds of that class of the community. He said it would be quite needless for him to offer any remarks by way of supporting the resolution. He thought that the propriety of circulating opinions with reference to the work they had in hand would approve itself to the judgment of all, and as he found that there was one more resolution to follow with reference to the finances of the society, he would at once sit down.

Mr. J. W. DOWSON (Norwich), seconded the resolution, observing that he thought whilst they

pursued the measure suggested, they should not make it a matter of party. When they wished to disally the Church and State, it was not because they wished to disengage the State from all religious principle, but, as it was, the State-Church was only a favoured sect. He thought the principle of religious equality was above all things necessary to be upheld. As in the case of the repeal of the corn laws, the repeal was mainly carried through the influence of public opinion, so he thought that they now wanted the influence of public opinion to bear upon this question, while standing upon the broad principle of religious equality.

The Rev. G. GOULD was afraid that it was characteristic of the Nonconformist body in this country that they did not fairly support their own organs. He thought, also, that they ought to be more careful in instructing their children as to why they were Nonconformists. This used to be done by their forefathers, and the result was that men grew up who were able to maintain their own opinions, and at the same time, to show proper respect to the views and sentiments of those who differed from them. He believed that until Dissenters made their families centres of Nonconformity they would not be doing justice to the principles they professed.

The resolution was then put and carried unanimously.

Mr. J. J. COLMAN (Norwich), in a brief speech proposed the next resolution:—

That the conference is of opinion that the valuable results of its past labours, and the growing importance of the work in which it is engaged, furnish adequate reasons for affording to the Liberation Society increased pecuniary support. The conference therefore expresses the earnest hope that the society's friends in the eastern counties will, during the current financial year, considerably augment the annual subscription lists.

As facts were better than theories, Mr. Colman said he would give them some facts which had been placed in his hands. He then proceeded to read a statement of the income of the society derived from Norfolk and Suffolk, remarking that he hoped all who had it in their power would assist the society in this direction, and strive to induce others to do the same. He believed the association was a very good and useful one, and that the money subscribed would be faithfully spent.

Mr. NEVE, of Tuddenham, near Ipswich, seconded the resolution.

After a few remarks from the CHAIRMAN, and from Mr. WILLIAMS, the resolution was put, and carried unanimously.

On the motion of Mr. W. CHATER (Lowestoft), seconded by Mr. J. GAMBLING (Buxton), it was also resolved—

That the members of the conference desire to express the pleasure with which they regard the visit of Mr. Edward Miall and Mr. Carvell Williams, the deputation on this occasion, as also their gratitude to the chairman and secretaries, to the local committee, and to other friends of the society in Norwich, whose activity and kindness have so greatly facilitated the arrangements for the conference.

After the conference an adjournment was made to the Royal Hotel, where, at the invitation of the Norwich members of the society, the visitors sat down to an excellent dinner. Mr. J. J. Colman presided, and was supported on his right and left by Mr. Grimwade and Mr. Miall. The usual loyal toasts were honoured, and the healths of "Mr. Miall and the deputation," and "Mr. Grimwade and the visitors," were drunk with enthusiasm.

THE PUBLIC MEETING.

In the evening a public meeting was held at the Lecture Hall, St. Andrew's. J. J. Colman, Esq., occupied the chair, and there was a very large and influential attendance.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said that no one could have observed what was going on in the world without noticing how much attention was being paid to all questions relating to religion, or to this question of religious equality. It was a common observation, almost universally assented to, that one of the great questions that would soon have to be decided was that of the Church Establishment of this country, and he might also say that both outside and inside the Church there was a feeling of some desirable or impending change. There were Churchmen who were not slow to admit that forms, creeds, and ceremonies instituted many hundreds of years ago were not exactly suited to the present day. (Hear, hear.) There were anomalies which they thought should not exist. Could it be right, that men professing their belief in the same terms, having precisely the same meaning, should afterwards turn round and avow that they held diametrically opposite opinions? (Hear, hear.) Was it right that one parish should be subjected to the teaching of a clergyman holding the opinions of "Brother Ignatius," while another parish should be under the care of some Evangelical and godly clergyman, the two teaching diametrically opposite things, but at the same time professing to be members of the same Church, supported by the same Government, and kept in their position by the same National Church, and the same law of the land. (Hear, hear.) Then, as to the question of Church-rates, Dissenters had a right to strive for a mitigation of the evil, but how were they to proceed? They had tried various means, and now the Liberation Society suggested that they should stand a little more on their rights in the use of their electoral privilege. (Hear, hear.) There was nothing unconstitutional in this, nor did he think there was anything likely to be more efficient or becoming their position as Englishmen. (Applause.) The policy recommended by the Liberation Society was objected to on the ground that it might change the Government of the day; but Parliament

was governed by events, and it was a Protectionist Parliament that gave the country free trade; and it might be that this Parliament would yet give the country a greater measure of religious liberty than it had had before. (Hear, hear.) There were many Dissenters who thought the Liberation Society had done more harm than good by the opposition it had stirred up. To these persons he would reply that if Catholic Emancipation, the Reform Bill, the Abolition of Slavery, and Free Trade, might be taken as examples of the way in which questions were fought and carried in England, these questions having gone through the different phases of neglect at first, then, as they became more strongly supported, of violent opposition from vested interests, which made some think they would never be carried, and finally of triumph, he believed that the battle of religious reform, which had now reached the stage of strenuous opposition, would, in like manner, be successful in the end. (Cheers.) They might regret the alienation which must for a time be caused as between them and members of the Church with whom they were on terms of social intercourse, but they must not be restrained in proclaiming their principles, which, if wrong, would fail, but if right, could not be prevented from their final accomplishment. (Applause.)

Mr. MANNING PRENTICE, of Stowmarket, moved:—

That proof from Scripture, reason, and experience, compel the conclusion that the Churches of Christ, to be independent, pure, and efficient, must repudiate State patronage, and depend only, as the primitive churches did, on the free-will offerings of the faithful.

Mr. Prentice contended that the teaching of Scripture was opposed to a Church supported by the State, and that it was a terrible thing to submit the affairs of the Church to the guidance of Government and men who need not necessarily possess the grace of God. Of late years there had been a great increase of life in the Church. There had been great voluntary effort put forth by Churchmen, which told them how great would be the blessing if it were allowed its full and free development. (Applause.)

Mr. CARVELL WILLIAMS seconded the resolution, and in doing so commented on the inexorable logic of events as being more likely even than their arguments to bring Episcopalians to the conclusion that they suffered, rather than gained, by the establishment of their Church. The idea of any satisfactory change in the constitution and working of the Church appeared to be absolutely hopeless; in proof of which the speaker referred to several facts of recent occurrence. Ten years ago, nearly 4,000 clergymen presented a memorial to the Episcopal Bench, praying for an alteration in the Burial Service, which they declared pressed heavily on their consciences; but the bishops replied that the difficulties at that time were insuperable. Last year Lord Ebury ventilated the matter in the House of Lords, when the Archbishop of Canterbury said his feelings were so strong that rather than use the Burial Service over one who had died in a state of immorality, he would brave all the perils of the law. The Bishop of London also said that if he were called upon to take the initiative in the prosecution of a clergyman under such circumstances, he would not put the law in force. (Applause.) It was not surprising that the Lord Chancellor closed the debate by sarcastically observing that they were dismissing the question, "with the sure and certain hope" that it would come before their lordships the next session, he trusted, in a more satisfactory state. (Laughter.) The clergy, however, had refused, by overwhelming majorities, to listen to the idea of alteration. Why? Because, they said instead of the service being altered to suit the ungodly, the Church should possess the power of exercising discipline, and of excommunicating unworthy members. That, however, was a power which the Church never would get while it remained an Establishment. (Hear.) It was like the net cast into the sea, filled with fish both bad and good, and the tendencies of the present time were in favour of latitudinarianism in the Church, rather than exclusiveness. (Hear, hear.) He believed that the present system was dishonouring to God and destructive to men's souls, and that it was their duty, with the principles they entertained, to bring it to a speedy end. By doing so they might expose themselves to the maledictions of those whom they wished to serve, but though members of the Church of England might pour out upon them the vials of their wrath, they believed the time would come when they would regard them, not only as benefactors of their Church, but as men who had done somewhat to promote the good of man and the glory of God. (Great applause.)

Mr. EDWARD MIALL then came forward, amid loud cheers, to move the following resolution:—

That, attaching paramount importance to the principles already expressed, the meeting heartily approves of the resolution of the Executive Committee of the Liberation Society to employ all the legitimate means at their command to prevail on those electors who concur in the society's objects, to exercise their franchise at future elections with a primary view to obtain the legislative recognition of their principles.

After describing the object the society had in view, as one which sought to promote spiritual religion, and which would promote the true interests of the Church of England, he said:—

Our principles are religious principles; if they are not that, they are nothing. They are principles in reference to which we ought to pray earnestly for the blessing of God upon the means we make use of for their extension, and if we don't do this we do very little indeed. But we have means in our power which we have not hitherto sufficiently employed. I think that the friends of religious equality have been somewhat unfaithful to the immense

trust imposed upon them by Divine Providence. (Hear, hear.) I do not think they have looked at this question in the right light in the first place. I don't think, even when they have looked at it in that light, and have gained some conviction upon it, that they have put forth their utmost efforts in accordance with the importance—the paramount importance—of the principles themselves. I may be regarded as a fanatic on the subject—as a man having only one idea and working upon that idea until it seems to have absorbed all his attention and all his sympathy; but even with those who are not so absorbed in the question as myself, there seem to be two or three things that are plain and practical—two or three things which I would commend to your consideration. Those representatives whom we send to Parliament can undo this miserable connection which fetters the Church, which obstructs her free action and operation, which misrepresents her character to the world, and which stands in the way of her ultimate success. We have the power of electing those representatives, and there are no more important objects that we can set before us than the ultimate purification of the Church from those things that I have endeavoured to point out. But we have utterly forgotten our principles in the use of the electoral franchise. It would be easy for us to do our duty—easier, much easier, than is supposed—even in places where we are exposed to the influence of wealth and of the aristocracy. What have you to do? You have to meet together, to confer with one another to do nothing which is offensive in its nature; to behave with respect to all with whom you come in contact; but it would be easy for you to determine that in the choice of future representatives you are to have a consultative voice. (Hear, hear.) It would be easy for you to give notice—as I trust we shall be able to do—to those who manage electioneering matters, all over the kingdom, that we don't intend to work without taking into regard the good that our principles may derive from our work. It is very well for them to be most anxious to keep together the party; we do not wish that a division or a disunion shall be effected in the party; but we, being a part, and no unimportant portion either—certainly the most active and energetic in carrying out all its electioneering affairs—are entitled to say:—"Although we cannot ask you, because our numbers are small, to adopt our whole principle, and send to Parliament candidates representing all our opinions, yet we do say we shall ask you to select such representatives as will give their cordial support to such measures of practical progress in the direction of religious equality as have already been before Parliament, or may strike us as being up to the public opinion of the day." (Hear, hear.) If that be done everywhere—and I don't see why it should not be done everywhere—there would be no intolerance, there would be no over-riding the opinions of others; we shall be simply measuring and estimating our own value in the electoral body, and exacting that to which we are amply entitled. (Hear, hear.) This is what we are going to attempt to do everywhere. And what will be the issue, supposing we obtain our ends? This: equality of all citizens in the eye of the law, without regard to the differences of the religious faith. That is all we want, all we ask for. (Hear, hear.) This doctrine we intend to carry throughout the kingdom. We have held an important conference this morning, and have come to the resolution that these are the principles upon which we will act, and I trust that those principles will carry conviction to your minds. We must be more manly; we must disregard the social influences by which we are surrounded, and which have such a strong tendency to pervert the truth of our judgment. We must do for our faith what we would do for our temporal interests, and we must put our faith first. (Hear, hear.) Let this be the case, and but a very few years will elapse when we shall be able to accomplish the purposes we have in view, and the end will come, and no men will bless our memory with devouter gratitude than those who now execrate us as unworthy of a position of honour. (Loud cheers.)

The Rev. GEORGE GOULD said that the doctrines and customs of the Church were governed by law, and the law was enacted by our representatives. Unless, therefore, they protested against that law, it was to be regarded as the fitting exposition of their convictions. Mr. Gould then referred to a recent ordination at the cathedral, when the bishop, laying his hands on each gentleman before him, repeated the form laid down for the occasion, "Whosoever sins thou dost remit, they are remitted, and whosoever sins thou dost retain, they are retained." He asserted that the House of Commons did not represent the feelings of the people in this country, for the great majority in Great Britain and Ireland were not members of the Established Churches. (Hear, hear.) He then proceeded to comment on the diversion of various endowments from the purposes for which they were intended by the donors. It was, he said, the apparent endeavour of Churchmen to bring the endowed schools of the country under the influence of the Established Church, and make the Universities nothing more than nurseries for the Church. (Hear, hear.) He complained that a Dissenter was denied the enjoyment of certain advantages at Oxford or Cambridge, because he could not conscientiously subscribe to the formularies of the Church of England as established by law. He concluded by calling upon the meeting to use their legitimate influence upon the House of Commons to remedy the evils which crushed the life out of the Church. (Applause.)

The Rev. J. COLMAN, of Yarmouth, moved the appointment of a local committee. He referred to a clergyman who, at a meeting at which he was present, undertook to prove that the Bible supported a compulsory enforcement of religion, and in proof of it quoted the words, "Go ye out into the highways and hedges, and compel them to come in," and "The kingdom of heaven suffereth violence." (Great laughter.) He remarked that Nonconformists had been too cowardly to assert their manhood, and feared too much a loss of status and respectability in what was called good society. His advice was that they

should unite, that in every town they should unite, that in every town the Nonconformists should gather together for the advancement of their principles. He did not wish to offend anybody, but when a person stood between him and what he believed to be the truth of Jesus Christ, he would not relinquish his object for fear of giving him offence or displeasure. (Hear, hear.) It had been alleged against them that they were going to turn the world upside down, but the world had been the wrong side up long enough, and now we hoped at last to right it. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. CLEMENT COZENS-HARDY seconded the resolution, which was unanimously adopted.

Mr. MIALD then proposed a cordial vote of thanks to the CHAIRMAN, who thought that the meeting had been a good one throughout, and he believed that if it had more impressed them with the truth of their great principles, it had not been held in vain. (Great applause.)

THE PRESS AND THE CONFERENCE.

The *Norfolk News*, in reply to the inquiry, "What it's all about," says:—

The sum and result of all is, that the principle, as it is called, of religious equality has been cast like bread upon the waters. "Religious equality," though the words seem to be plain enough, must be explained to meet the dullness or perverseness of those who can't or won't understand. Religious equality means that all sects or bodies of religious men, and all religious men as individuals, should be as free in action as human thought is, and should be all equal in the eye of the law, as they are in the sight of God. It means that no sect shall be able to put upon its front the words *cum privilegio*—that no sect shall be specially favoured with the obnoxious prerogative of putting its digits into the public pocket, or into any man's pocket without his free consent—that every sect claiming to have truth from heaven, and to be upheld by heavenly power, should consider that *this fact* is guarantee for the stability and spread of truth committed to that sect, without the foreign aid of State patronage and the secular arm,—that, to use sacred words, "Ephraim shall not envy Judah, and Judah shall not vex Ephraim."

What with rank Popery at one extreme of the Church, and rank Rationalism at the other, and these two extremes the most lively spots in the vast desert, it will not do for Church of England folks to treat with contempt anybody, not even the Liberation Society, nor the humbler servant of the public who now writes these faithful words.

From and after the day that Garibaldi walked unarmed into the city of Naples, and, in the name of humanity and liberty, overthrew in a moment the entrenched tyranny of centuries, no one has needed to despair, whatever may be the seeming weakness of the cause of truth, and the seeming strength of spiritual or political Bourbonism. It is unbecoming, we repeat it, to laugh at any movement which embodies a great principle. The rough and least likely instrument often avails for the highest service. The question is, which and who have right on their side? This is especially the question, when the subject matter concerns religion and the future of the Church. All the great developments of Church life, and all the revolutions of the Church's government, have come out of "weakness made strong."

With a more kindly regard than ever are we drawn towards the learned, devoted, earnest men who are at work within the Church, endeavouring to save it by reviving its spirituality, enlarging its borders, popularising its services, and making it worthy of heaven's patronage and the people's affection. It may be that their labours will not be in vain, and that the Church, renovated or still further reformed, may have a fresh lease of vitality. If it be best for truth and liberty, we shall rejoice over any change that may come. We care not a straw for this sect or that, as such. But we do care that religion be separated and freed from the defilements it has contracted, and the fetters it has put upon itself, and from the rest of those "evil communications which have corrupted its good manners"; so that men may see religion in all its simplicity and beauty—not tricked out in the meretricious garb of Rome, nor habited in the austerity of Calvin, nor twisted into the fantastic forms of some Dissenting sects—but free as the air of heaven, clear, warm, and life-giving as the unsullied light of day.

The *Suffolk Chronicle* reports the conference at so great length as to be unable to find space for comment.

The following is part of an excellent article in the *Suffolk Mercury*:—

Parliament has long trifled with this sacred subject. The injustice it has perpetrated on loyal subjects has been equally discreditable. The appeal for redress has been made, and made again, in vain. Sir John Trelawny (a Churchman too) regularly at each session of Parliament has opened, has hitherto given notice of the introduction of his bill for the abolition of Church-rates. Sir M. Peto has also more than once appealed for equal liberty in churchyards, but both have been denied, and denied again. Repeated disappointments, however, have not destroyed hope. There is a constitutional *modus operandi* yet in reserve. It is seen to be absolutely essential that the infusion of more liberal-minded men into the ranks of the Liberal party should take place, and by a series of resolutions on Wednesday, it will be found that the Nonconformists of the Eastern counties have pledged themselves to do their best in forthcoming elections to secure this end. The member for East Norfolk, Col. Coke, may make the most of his honours—that is pretty certain, for the manner in which he has shuffled from his obligations is most discreditable. Mr. J. H. Tillett is no cipher at an election crisis, and his opinion even Col. Coke may do well to heed. In Suffolk it was truly stated we have not much to boast of, by way of either liberal or enlightened representation. For Ipswich, it is true, we have an upright member in the person of Mr. Adair, but his sympathy with Dissenters under their vexatious grievances is by no means so great as we could desire. There must in future, however, be an absolute promise to represent Nonconformist interests, otherwise he, like many others, will find Nonconformists will forsake him. In proportion to their strength alone do Dissenters ask for representation, and this cannot with any show of justice be denied them.

Whatever the consequences to party is a minor consideration, compared with making a stand for just and equitable representation.

There is also an able and thoroughly cordial article on the subject in the *Essex Telegraph*.

THE IRISH REGIUM DONUM.

DEPUTATION TO THE LORD-LIEUTENANT.

A deputation from the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Ulster was received by the Lord-Lieutenant at the Viceroyal Lodge on Thursday, for the exclusive purpose of seeking an increase of *Regium Donum*. The deputation was well supported by members of Parliament. It consisted of Lord Cremorne; Lord Dufferin; Sir Edward Grogan, M.P.; Mr. Vance, M.P.; Mr. Robert Peel Dawson, M.P.; Mr. Pollard-Urquhart, M.P.; Mr. Torrens, M.P.; Rev. John Rogers, Moderator of the General Assembly; Rev. Jackson Smith; Rev. William M'Clure; Rev. Richard Smith; Rev. Dr. Cooke; Rev. R. Black; Rev. Dr. Denham; Rev. William M'Cance; Rev. Dr. Morgan; Rev. Dr. Barnett; Rev. S. G. Morrison; Rev. John Hall; Rev. I. M'Callister; Rev. Dr. Wilson; Rev. James Hanson; Mr. Samuel H. Greer; Mr. G. W. Slaton; Mr. J. Adamson, J.P.; Mr. F. G. Ferguson; Mr. Fyffe; and Mr. J. Macrory. The Moderator of the General Assembly explained the object which the deputation had in view. It was that the amount of the *Regium Donum* to each minister should be increased from 75*l.* to 100*l.* per annum. The causes which led to the necessity for the request were the general increase in the cost of living, and the advantage of rendering the profession of the ministry at home more attractive to the young men than missions abroad. At present foreign missions offered greater inducements to young clergymen than the home missions. In fact, at the present moment the majority of the students at the various colleges intended devoting themselves to the missionary service. If the allowance was not increased, the result would be that there would be much difficulty in getting young men of the requisite position and ability to devote themselves to the ministry at home. It was calculated that the amount required in order to give the increase would be about 10,000*l.* The Rev. Dr. Cooke also explained the views of the deputation, and said that the necessity for an increase in the salaries of the ministers was becoming every day more observable in Belfast and in other parts of the country. He trusted that the Government would see the necessity of supporting the Presbyterian body, which was a most important portion of the community. Mr. Vance, M.P., remarked that as far as he was able to ascertain the views of the Conservative members of the House of Commons, they would be favourable to the proposed increase, so that Government might not apprehend any party opposition. Mr. Pollard-Urquhart, M.P., said that the Presbyterian Church of Scotland fully sympathised with their brethren in Ireland, and if any measure were introduced, Government might calculate upon the support of a large portion of the Scotch people, and also of their representatives. Captain Dawson, M.P., supported the views of the deputation, and assured his Excellency that the Presbyterian people were looking for the action of the Government in the matter with great anxiety. Lord Carlisle said he heard the statements of the gentlemen who had addressed him with the great attention to which they were undoubtedly entitled, being so very influential, and representing, as they did, such an important branch of the Irish people. He would make known their views to the Cabinet, who would do whatever seemed to be consistent with right and justice in the matter, due regard being had to the other exigencies of the State. He feared very much that the present feeling of the House of Commons, as well as the tendency of the age, was rather adverse to increasing ecclesiastical endowments of any kind.

THE DEPOSITION OF BISHOP COLENSO.

The trial of the Bishop of Natal was concluded on the 16th December at Capetown. The news by the last mail brought down the report of the trial to the evening of Thursday, Nov. 19. On the morning of the following day the Archdeacon of George, one of the accusing clergy, resumed his arguments in support of the accusations by considering the alleged errors of the Bishop of Natal as respects the Holy Scriptures. His address occupied nearly the whole of the day, and in the course of it he discussed with great minuteness the bearing of the Church formularies upon each of Bishop Colenso's views as set forth in the extracts from his writings referred to in the citation. This closed the case for the prosecution.

The Registrar then read a letter from the Bishop of Natal, which was put in in his defence. The letter was dated "Bishopstowe, August 7, 1861." It was very voluminous, occupying nearly three columns of small type in the local journals. With great closeness of argument it categorically went through nearly the whole of the impugned extracts. The tone of the arguments was clearly shown in the exordium, which said—

I have no doubt whatever that the canonical books of Scripture do contain errors, and some very grave ones, in matters of fact, and that the historical narratives are not to be depended on as true in all their details. I have never stated this publicly, but surely, in this age of critical inquiry, every intelligent student of the Scriptures must be aware of the truth of what I say. It is vain to deny what is patent to any careful and conscientious reader, who will set himself to compare one passage of Scripture history with another. And, I must say, I had supposed that there were very few in the

present day, except in a very narrow school of theology, who would contest this point.

The Metropolitan asked Dr. Bleek if he desired to say anything on behalf of Bishop Colenso. Dr. Bleek said he came there for two purposes—first, to protest; and, secondly, in the event of their lordships, notwithstanding that protest, assuming jurisdiction, to give notice of appeal. He had no instructions to do anything further. The court then adjourned.

On reassembling on Nov. 21, the Very Rev. the Dean of Capetown delivered a long reply. This closed the case.

The court then adjourned, and reassembled by notice on December 14, when the suffragan bishops (as assessors) delivered their opinions. The presenting clergy had accused Dr. Colenso of heresy on nine counts—1. His disbelief in the Atonement. 2. His belief in justification without any knowledge of Christ. 3. His belief in natal regeneration. 4. His disbelief in the endlessness of future punishments. 5. His denial that the Holy Scriptures are the word of God. 6. His denial of the inspiration of the Holy Scriptures. 7. His denial that the Bible is a true history of the facts which it professes to describe. 8. His denial of the divinity of our Blessed Lord. 9. His depraving, impugning, and bringing into disrepute the Book of Common Prayer.

The Bishop of Graham's-town said he considered all these charges proved; and, painful as it was to him to arrive at such a conclusion, he considered that, by the false teaching proved against him, the Bishop of Natal had wholly disqualified himself for bearing rule in the Church of God, and for the cure of souls therein. The Bishop of the Free State announced that he had come to a similar conclusion.

The court was then adjourned to Dec. 16, when, on its reassembling, the Metropolitan gave judgment, depriving Bishop Colenso of his see, unless, on or before the 4th of March next, the bishop shall file a full, unconditional, and absolute retraction, in writing, of all the objectionable extracts, in London, or a like retraction by April 16 in Capetown.

Dr. Bleek handed in a protest against the legality of the proceedings and the validity of the judgment, and gave notice of appeal.

The Bishop of Capetown said he could not recognise any appeal except to his Grace the Archbishop of Canterbury, and he must require that appeal to be made within fifteen days from that time.

CHURCH-RATES—EASTBOURNE.—Mr. Samuel Hall and three others have just been summoned for Church-rates, and, after some law and higgling, the summons was withdrawn. The magistrates were strongly prejudiced, and fear of committing themselves led the chairman to urge the churchwarden to withdraw the summons. There is talk of a higher court. The rate is believed to be illegal.

DR. MALAN, of Geneva, is seriously ill, and scarcely likely to recover. This eminent divine was the first who, at the beginning of the Revival, in 1817, openly proclaimed from the pulpit of Calvin and the Church of St. Pierre, the Gospel of salvation by faith in Jesus Christ.

DR. MANNING A CARDINAL.—It is reported that the Pope has created a new cardinal without publishing the appointment, reserving the nomination *in pectore*, to adopt the phrase of the Roman Court. The dignitary is Dr. Manning, Cardinal Wiseman's Vicar-General. The learned prelate is at present in Rome, and preaches to the English residents of his faith.—*Daily News*.

PROTESTANTISM IN ROME.—The Cardinal-Vicar at Rome has definitely refused to authorise the British consul to have Protestant worship at his residence for the convenience of the now overflowing British congregation. It is apprehended, however, that the American Minister will be more fortunate, and that some space will be obtained at the British chapel when he gathers his countrymen around him at his official residence, or at some duly authorised locality.

PROPOSED EPISCOPAL MEETING.—The Archbishop of Canterbury has invited all the prelates of England and Ireland, and such of the colonial bishops as are now in England, to meet at Lambeth Palace on Wednesday, the 3rd of February, to confer on six subjects important to the welfare of the Church, the chief of which are diocesan synods, the burial service, subscriptions to the Articles, and an American proposal to amend the English authorised version of the Bible.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN SPAIN.—The subject of religious toleration has been again brought before the Spanish Chamber of Representatives. M. Matamoros, it may be remembered, was some time back convicted of attempting to propagate the Protestant religion in Spain by selling Bibles, and was condemned to eight years' hard labour, which sentence was afterwards commuted to banishment for life. He has ever since inhabited Bayonne, from which town he lately forwarded a petition to the Spanish Chamber, appealing to the wisdom of the national representatives, to propose some legal measures for protecting the liberty of conscience against intolerance. The committee charged to examine the petition decided that there was no reason for deliberating on the demand, and the Chamber simply adopted the conclusions of the committee.

THE CHINESE SCHOLARS AND CHRISTIANITY.—The Rev. J. Laughton, Baptist missionary, recently visited Timgchowfoo at the time of the examination for the Tientsin, or Chinese B.A. degree. There were between six and seven thousand candidates, and many of them eagerly attended the chapels of the missionaries. According to Mr. Laughton, it was curious to notice the effect which the preaching of

Christianity had upon these scholars. Some of them said that Jesus was a great sage, and, according to what the preacher said, must have been a holy man. Some of them suggested that as Confucius was the great sage of the East, so Jesus was the great sage of the West. They were exceedingly angry at the attempts that were made to convince them of the sophistries and deficiencies of the philosophy of Confucius. When Christ was spoken of as the Son of the only true God, who became incarnate and died for sins of men, some of them laughed, and others flew into a violent passion. Many of them left, saying, almost in the words of the Athenian philosophers, "We may, perhaps, call again another day, and hear more of this doctrine." Several, however, lingered behind, and talked over the matter with the missionaries calmly and with great apparent candour and ability.

DEAN STANLEY AT EDINBURGH.—On Wednesday night Dean Stanley delivered in the Music-hall at Edinburgh a second and concluding lecture on the Hebrew monarchy under Solomon. Prince Alfred, on entering the hall in the Highland dress with the Duke of Argyll, was loudly cheered. In a former lecture Dean Stanley described the splendour of the Jewish kingdom; in his second and last he gave an account of the wisdom, writings, and decline of Solomon. At the conclusion, the Duke of Argyll returned thanks. The lecture, he said, exhibited three characteristics, which appeared to him to be found in all the writings of Dean Stanley—the love of justice, the love of knowledge, and the most fearless love of truth. These qualities had all along been recognised as of the highest value in the men of literature and in the men of science, and he hoped that the time would never come when they would be less appreciated and less valued in the minister of religion.

CONSCIENCE.—The Rev. John Smith, incumbent of St. John's Church, Blackburn, was, the other Sunday, giving an account to his congregation of the work he had done during the past year. So many christened; so many married; so many pastoral visits paid; so many sermons preached; so many persons interred. On the ostentatiousness of this we need not stay to remark. Most men do good by stealth; but tastes differ, so that may pass. But of the large number, out of his congregation and Sunday-school, whom he had interred, or read the funeral service over, he publicly pledged himself to be able to say that *twenty-one* had died "in sure and certain hope of the resurrection of eternal life." What, then, about the rest, over whom these same words were pronounced? Of the rest, he was silent *in the church*, though he had not been silent *at the grave*. Cannot a man, and that man a minister of Christ, use the same words in one place in one sense, and in another place in another? May he not have a larger heart in the cemetery than in the church—be more discriminating here than there, and yet be, and feel himself in the review of this and that to be, an honest man?—*From a Correspondent*.

THREATENED EJECTMENT OF PRESBYTERIAN MINISTERS IN ENGLAND.—A correspondent of the *London Weekly Review* states that "proceedings have been instituted which, if carried out, will lead to the ejectment of some of our English Presbyterian ministers from their manes and churches, and will subject them to the most serious annoyance, expense, and suffering. These proceedings have been raised at the instance of the brethren who hold themselves to be connected with the National Church of Scotland; and their object is to obtain possession of property which they allege belongs, according to law, to that Establishment. From public rumour it would appear that the most energetic measures are being adopted. Deputations have visited various districts of England, meetings have been held, and missives have been despatched—all indicating that a concerted and systematic attempt is to be made to secure all the ecclesiastical property now enjoyed by the Presbyterian Church in England which can be possibly reached by a legal interpretation of the title-deeds. Already these proceedings have been instituted; and, as if resolved to begin at the top, the bolt has fallen on the head of the Moderator of the Synod." This, if carried out, will be a repetition of the *quoad sacra* business in Scotland.

SYSTEMATIC BENEFICENCE SOCIETY.—On Monday evening, the Rev. A. Raleigh, M.A., of London, delivered a lecture in connection with this society to a crowded audience at the Broadmead Rooms, Bristol, on "Poverty, Competence, and Wealth." In the course of an able and eloquent address, the rev. gentleman expressed his belief that there would be a burial day for the world's poverty, and no resurrection of it. The cure lay in the application of the whole of the Gospel of Christ to the whole state of man, and he urged upon his hearers to adopt its teachings. A vote of thanks was given to the able lecturer for his eloquent address, and a collection was made towards defraying the expenses of holding the society's meetings in Bristol.—On Tuesday evening a public meeting of the society was held in the large Victoria Room, when Earl Cavan presided, and the meeting was addressed by a deputation from the parent society, and several ministers and friends. It was stated in the course of the addresses that the society was not engaged in doing any work of its own, therefore it did not ask for anything towards carrying on such a work. They did not wish to direct charitable contributions through any particular channel; all that they wanted people to do was to set apart stated proportions of all that God gave them for sacred purposes. The object of the society was, in fact, to propagate systematic giving on Scriptural principles. It was argued that from the creation God had appointed to man to consecrate

one-seventh of his time, and one-tenth of his substance; and that, it was urged, should be looked upon as an exercise of brotherly love. A resolution was passed, pledging the meeting to give the principles of the society that earnest and practical consideration which their importance demanded, and a vote of thanks to the noble chairman terminated the proceedings.

CANTERBURY DIOCESE AND THE BURIAL SERVICE.—The Archbishop of Canterbury having expressed a desire to know the feelings of the clergy of his diocese on the much-vexed question of the burial service, a numerous attended meeting of the clergy of the large deanery of Sutton was held at Maidstone, on Friday, the 15th instant, the Rev. Julius Deedes, vicar of Marden and rural dean, in the chair. In order to bring about a direct issue, it was moved, "That some changes in the office for the burial of the dead are desirable," the speaker intimating that should that resolution be carried, he was prepared to move further the desirableness of certain definite alterations. Upon this the following amendments were brought forward:—(1) "This meeting apprehends that no alteration of the present service would effectually remove the difficulties which from time to time arise." (2) "That to prevent the service being read over the bodies of notorious sinners and unbelievers, as well as for the spiritual good of such persons in their lifetime, the Archbishop of Canterbury be requested to take the restoration of discipline in the Church of England into his consideration." On a division, these amendments were carried by a majority of three-fourths of the clergy present; and letters of regret at their non-ability to attend the meeting had been received by the rural dean from several others, unanimously expressing their conviction that no change whatever in the service is desirable.

THE BISHOPRIC OF ELY.—Lord Palmerston has offered, in the name of the Crown, the vacant bishopric of Ely to the Rev. Edward Harold Browne, B.D., Norrisian Professor of Divinity in the University of Cambridge, Canon of Exeter, Principal of the Theological College at Exeter, and chaplain to the Bishop. Mr. Browne has accepted the high office. Professor Browne, who is about fifty years of age, is the brother of Colonel Thomas Gore Browne, C.B., lately Governor of New Zealand. Dr. Browne was one of the authors of "Aids to Faith," in which he showed that the truths of religion and of modern science are in harmony. He is the author of a "History of the Thirty-nine Articles"—in which he upholds the doctrine of baptismal regeneration—"Sermons on the Atonement," and various theological works. The new bishop is a moderately High-Churchman, a good preacher, and for some time past has been an active member of the Lower House of Convocation. He is succeeded as Canon of Exeter by the Rev. F. O. Cook, one of the Inspector of Schools under the Committee of Council on Education, also one of the contributors to "Aids to Faith." For some time past Mr. Cook has been engaged, as far as his official duties would permit, in a course of Biblical research, which pointed him out to the Speaker and the Archbishop of York as a fit superintending editor for the projected XXX. Commentary on the Bible suggested by these distinguished personages; and his new appointment will afford the position and leisure for pursuing those studies to practical purpose.

Religious Intelligence.

LONDON CONGREGATIONAL CHAPEL-BUILDING SOCIETY.

On Tuesday evening, January 19th, the friends of the London Congregational Chapel-building Society assembled together at their annual *soirée*, under the presidency of Eusebius Smith, Esq., the treasurer. The proceedings commenced by singing the hymn "Ye servants of the Lord," after which the Rev. E. S. PROUT, M.A., offered prayer.

The CHAIRMAN, after paying an affectionate tribute to their late secretary, Mr. Bramall, and explaining that the absence of the Rev. C. Gilbert, the other secretary, was due to his indisposition, said,—They had been spared to conclude another year of their labours, and had now reached the fifteenth year of the society's labours. In some respects, he was happy to say, the past year had been the most important of any. During the year thirteen new chapels—Hammersmith, Tolmer's-square, and Wood-green—had been built, and five had made considerable progress towards completion. Indeed, they were all roofed in, and would be finished during the first six months of this year. These were, Barking, Croydon, Lower Clapham, Southwark, and Forest-hill chapels. These undertakings had occupied a large share of the attention of the committee, in addition to Tottenham-court Chapel, which in itself was so gigantic a work that it would not have been altogether unreasonable if the society had done nothing else. He proceeded to explain that the committee thought it was their duty to restore this important chapel surrounded by so dense a population. For several years the front part of the chapel—formerly called the "oven"—had been devoted to secular purposes, but the committee had restored it to its original use, and have made the chapel capable of comfortably seating more than fifteen hundred persons with the modern spaces—for the space allotted to each individual in George Whitfield's time would no longer do for the wants of the present generation. ("Hear," and laughter.) Having decided that the whole of the building should be devoted to purposes of worship, it became necessary

to provide for the schools, for though the congregation have become scattered, there was a Sabbath-school numbering more than 400. That had necessitated the erection of a school-house, and they were able to report that that had been done. (Hear, hear.) That had somewhat delayed the opening of the chapel, as they could not disturb it till they had provided for the schools. They hoped soon to have secured a suitable minister. The work would cost about 4,000*l.*, in addition to the 4,400*l.* as purchase-money. He (the chairman) thought that if all the new chapels annually built by all denominations were put together, they could not do more than meet the requirements of the ever-growing population.

The population of this metropolis increases at the rate of 70,000 a-year, and to accommodate 58 per cent. of that population we need thirty-five new chapels. And that is about the number that is being built annually; and I am thankful for it. But we leave it with the public—and we leave it with God to open the hearts of the people—to give more money, so that we may do something towards meeting the present deficiency. Our income this year has been 5,000*l.* or 6,000*l.*, but we hope it will reach to 50,000*l.* There is wealth in London for such a work as this, if we could but influence those who possess it to devote a portion of it to that purpose. (Hear, hear.) The loan fund is an immense advantage to us. Without it we could not have done what we have. It is a common thing for persons who wish to put up a chapel to apply to our society for help. They are able, perhaps, to get a tolerably good subscription list, and their first question is,—What can we get from your society? Such was the case at Hammersmith, where we promised a loan of 500*l.* and a gift of 200*l.* When the work got so far that it was necessary to give us bills of exchange for the 500*l.*, the good friends asked themselves whether it was not possible to do without taking such a step. Hereupon we promised to give them an additional 100*l.* if they would dispense with the loan; and the result was, that they accepted our offer, and did as well without the loan as they could have done with it. Then there was Barking. When my friend Mr. Smedmore came to me his heart was very low down in his shoes; but the encouragement the society gave him stimulated his efforts. He was to have 200*l.* as a gift and 200*l.* as a loan; but when his friends looked at the bills of exchange—as all persons who sign them ought carefully to do—they hesitated. We then offered them 50*l.* more if they would do without the loan, and they accepted our offer, and they are quite as near getting out of debt as if they had the loan. Then I may mention a third case. When our friend Mr. Tyler commenced his gigantic undertaking, we promised him and his friends 500*l.* as a gift and 500*l.* as a loan. Now, Mr. Tyler's church consists almost entirely of the humbler class of people, and there is scarcely a man there who would do wisely to put his name to a bill for 500*l.* Mr. Tyler therefore said, "I must give security for this myself, and I may as well lend the money"—and I think so too. (Hear, hear.) Our friend then said, "Will you give us another 100*l.* if we give up the loan?" "Certainly," we replied; and the result is that the loan is given up. (Cheers.) Thus the working of the loan fund is an immense advantage in many ways, but at present I am sorry to say it is entirely exhausted, though the contributions of the past year brought it up to a trifle over 10,000*l.* I am fully convinced that it will tend more than anything else to give permanence to the operations of the society. (Cheers.)

Mr. SHEPPARD then read the annual report, which referred in detail to the facts glanced at by the chairman. The following deserves more specific notice:—

POWELL-ROAD CHAPEL, DALSTON.—Mr. Samuel Morley, with laudable zeal for the benefit of the working classes, having proposed to this committee the erection of a chapel for their special benefit on this leasehold site, and offered in aid of this undertaking to pay a third of the cost, the committee cheerfully voted a similar amount, and have for some time since been engaged in seeking to secure the erection of a building which shall be at once plain, commodious, and inexpensive, and which may not only serve for this particular locality, but may become a model for chapels in neighbourhoods where working people specially reside; and the committee have now to report that they have adopted a design furnished by Mr. Fuller, to seat 500 persons on the ground-floor, and to cost, including all charges, 1,365*l.*

The statement of accounts, as read by Mr. Smith, shows that the society have made grants during the year amounting to 3,232*l.* 13*s.* 11*d.*, and have disbursed 7,820*l.* 10*s.* 3*d.* from the loan fund. The working expenses of the society have been 444*l.* 12*s.* 7*d.* The balance in hand is about 700*l.*, and the amount at deposit 3,800*l.*, but every farthing of this is pledged for undertakings now in course of completion.

The Rev. G. SMITH, after making a touching allusion to the loss sustained by the society in the death of Mr. Bramall, and paying a high tribute to the work of that gentleman, expressed the gratification with which he had listened to the report. The Chapel-building Society did a work which had previously been left pretty much to the chapter of accidents. In addition to bringing the question before the public, they had done a great deal towards improving the architectural designs of chapels, and making them what they ought to be, as modern places of worship. By the advice they gave to intending chapel-builders, they also did an untold amount of good, as also in encouraging the formation of new churches and congregations, with all their agencies for usefulness. All honour to the society for coming to the rescue of Tottenham-court-road Chapel, and saving it from becoming perhaps a Roman Catholic Chapel, or perhaps a hall of Secular teaching. (Hear, hear.) He admired the catholic spirit of the society, a spirit so different from that displayed by the Bishop of London, who in his efforts to advance the cause of church-building ignored the existence of all denominations but his own. He wished for the society from his heart a continuance of prosperity and usefulness. (Cheers.)

The Rev. A. RALEIGH thought that very little

more remained to be said after the very interesting report to which they had listened, and the excellent remarks which had been made upon it by the previous speaker.

As the present minister of a church which had been assisted by the society in building a place of worship, he hoped that his people would never forget the obligations they were under to an institution which had aided them at so important a period. There was one defect, however, in Hare-court Chapel which the society would do well to avoid in future,—namely, the want of a good large room for social meetings. That, however, in passing. To some persons there might appear an aspect of materialism about the society, concerned as it was about the building of chapels. By the way, he thought it would be an improvement to call it a Church-building Society.

Dr. CAMPBELL: No, no, no. ("Hear," and laughter.)

Mr. RALEIGH: If any one has a church, I believe I have one; and if any one is a clergyman, I believe I am. (Hear, hear.) That is to say, those terms are regarded by the English public as more expressive than some other terms. Then I claim for my brethren and for myself the right to use them, if they do not convey any error. (Hear.) A number of us happened to meet the other day—some ten or twelve ministers in London—and we were talking of the architecture of our buildings and various other things connected with our church life. Amongst other questions that were started was this, would it not be an improvement to change the old name "meeting-house," and the other name "chapel," into "church"? And, strange to say, out of the whole twelve there was nobody who did not believe that "church" was the best name.

Dr. CAMPBELL: Oh, shocking! (Great laughter.)

Mr. RALEIGH: "Meeting-house" we thought would be better than "chapel." "Chapel" was, in our opinion, decidedly the worst of the three, but the term "church" was the best. Now, I do not expect that our friends will adopt that change in name for awhile, but I contend for the liberty and freedom of those who wish to have the other name. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Raleigh, after alluding to the need of a good pastor at Tottenham-court-road Chapel, concluded by saying:—

Last night I was lecturing in Bristol, and I stayed at the house of a friend who has a portrait of George Whitfield—the only good picture of him I ever saw. I have seen those horrid engravings with the cherubic face, and I have wondered how such moral and spiritual power could come out of a face like that. But when I saw in my friend's dining-room the real George Whitfield, I could see the cause at once. There was something approaching the Puritanic cast of countenance,—a breathing earnestness, fire coming out of those eyes, and intelligence out of every feature. I could not help wishing that we might have that picture engraved. I pray God—and I do not use the word as a matter of course—I pray God that you may get a man for the place expressly. (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. GUTHRIE said that he had very great pleasure in being present on that occasion, and in saying a kindly word on behalf of that excellent society. He wished to express for himself personally, and for his people, the deep sense of obligation they were under to the society for the interest it had taken in the work at Tolmar's-square. With respect to the general question, he was happy to see both Baptists and Wesleyans following the example of the Congregationalists. Even the Bishop of London, though he could not see Dissenters from his lofty elevation at all, did not hesitate to follow their good example. The society not only promoted Dissent, but Evangelism and a pure Gospel; and if it had been in existence in the days of George Whitfield, doubtless that seraphic man would have accomplished much more in the way of building than he had done. He agreed with Mr. Raleigh that the word "chapel" was a poor, miserable compromise. It was a modern term, and withal Popish. (Hear, hear.) He believed the word "church" to be a Scriptural word for a place of meeting, though the term "house of God" was more expressive still. (Hear, hear.)

The Rev. J. H. WILSON said that he had an intimation and a proposal to make to the meeting. Mr. Samuel Morley, who was unavoidably absent from the meeting, was prepared to give one-third of the cost of twelve such chapels in London as that in Pownall-road, Dalston; and not only so, but he was prepared to be at the expense of six iron rooms to take possession of new districts, so as to prepare the way for permanent buildings. He (Mr. Wilson) made the intimation on his own responsibility, in the hope that the example set by Mr. Morley would provoke others to the same good work. (Cheers.) As to the question of adaptation, he was much impressed by the remark of a Churchman with reference to Mr. Soden's new place of worship. The remark was, "I had no idea that Congregationalists had such power until I saw the building and spire rising up." It was important to have buildings suited to the localities by which they were surrounded, and there was great moral power in having substantial and comfortable buildings suited to the masses of London. The London Congregational Association was prepared to find men to occupy such places as Pownall-road Chapel, which was intended to be a model building for the purpose for which it was designed. He trusted that the system which had done so much at Edinburgh and Aberdeen would also do great things for London. (Cheers.)

The Rev. R. BRINDLEY, of Chelsea, briefly addressed the meeting, dwelling chiefly upon the arduous nature of the work he had been induced to undertake in his present sphere of labour, and his earnest hope and expectation that he would be enabled to overcome all difficulties.

The Rev. Dr. CAMPBELL also addressed the meeting at some length, principally upon the circumstances connected with the history of Tottenham-court-road Chapel, and the difficulties which the church there had had from time to time to encounter.

The doxology was then sung, and the benediction

having been pronounced, the proceedings were brought to a close.

THE REV. JOHN GRAHAM AND THE AUSTRALIAN CALL.

On Tuesday evening, the 19th instant, the annual financial church-meeting connected with Craven Chapel was held, under the presidency of the pastor, the Rev. John Graham. The meeting was numerously attended. After tea, reports were made as to the operations of the various societies connected with the chapel during the past year, as well as of the general financial affairs of the church; and it was felt to be matter of devout thanksgiving to God, and of encouragement for the future, that the several departments of Christian labour and liberality had been efficiently maintained; the total sum contributed towards the support of the several institutions, and for other religious and benevolent objects, and including the amount raised for sustaining the ministry and the ordinances of God's house, being about 3,400*l.*

The meeting was rendered more than usually interesting and impressive on account of the peculiar circumstances in which the church and congregation are at present placed, having before them the prospect of the removal of their respected pastor to a distant and most important sphere of labour in Sydney. The church has recently held two prayerful and anxious meetings on the subject, which resulted in the unanimous adoption of a resolution to the effect—

That, having before them the Rev. John Graham's address in reference to his proposed removal to Sydney, also the statement of the deacons in regard to it, yet considering how instrumental Mr. Graham has been in the conversion of sinners, and in promoting the harmony and edification of the church, as well as in sustaining its various institutions, it is the unanimous desire of this church that Mr. Graham should remain with his present charge; that, consequently, the church strongly urges upon him the reconsideration of his proposed withdrawal to another sphere of labour, but at the same time is most anxious to ascertain, and acquiesce in, the will of God, and earnestly prays that its beloved pastor may be guided to such a decision as will best promote the glory of God and the good of the church.

The pastor assured the friends assembled how deeply he felt the kind expression of their affectionate regard and appreciation of his services, as evinced in the resolution which had been forwarded to him. He stated that he had, in consequence thereof, most prayerfully and anxiously reconsidered the subject, being most desirous of ascertaining the will of God in reference thereto. He had also held conference and prayer with several ministerial brethren, but he had not seen any reason to alter his views in regard to the path of duty. He expressed his satisfaction and pleasure at the report he had received of the truly Christian spirit which had been manifested at the meetings referred to, and that although there were differences of opinion on some points, and the utmost freedom of speech was exercised, yet nothing was said or done but what was in strict accordance with the dictates of mutual kindness and brotherly love, and that the prayerful consideration and discussion of the subject had resulted in the cordial and unanimous expression of feeling embodied in the resolution which was adopted. Mr. Graham urged upon the church a continuance in the same course of consistent and Christian conduct, and while earnestly seeking Divine guidance and direction, to maintain, as they had hitherto done, confidence in the deacons of the church, and to co-operate with them in all things calculated to promote the welfare of the cause of Christ among them.

Altogether, the tone of the meeting was that of subdued and chastened feeling; giving evidence that while the church deeply regretted the anticipated removal of their esteemed and much-loved pastor, they yet have faith in God in reference to the future, and trust that the Great Head of the Church will, in His own good time, send them another pastor to supply the place of him who, at no ordinary sacrifice of personal comfort and endeared associations, is willing to devote himself to that work of God in a far-distant land, to which he believes the Lord has called him.

THE SPECIAL SERVICES.—The preacher at St. Paul's Cathedral on Sunday evening was the Rev. W. H. Brookfield. At the various theatre services the preachers were as follows:—Sadler's Wells, Rev. W. Pennefather; Standard, Rev. S. March; Victoria, Mr. Carter; Pavilion, Rev. W. Tyler; Surrey, Mr. Campbell; Marylebone, Rev. J. Clifford; Britannia, Rev. F. Tucker. At St. James's Hall, the Rev. Newman Hall in the afternoon, and the Rev. J. Fleming in the evening.

CAMDEN NEW TOWN.—On Friday, the 15th ult., a costly and elegant timepiece was presented to the Rev. George Hogben, by some of the members of his late congregation, together with an address expressing their esteem and affection for their late pastor, their sense of benefits received through his ministrations, their gratitude for his complete restoration to health, and desire that he might soon be directed to a sphere of future labour and usefulness.

MILE-END.—On Thursday evening, the 14th inst., a meeting of the friends of the Rev. R. Saunders took place in the school-room of Latimer Chapel, Mile-end, for the purpose of presenting him with a purse containing 120 sovereigns, as a testimonial of their esteem for him as a kind, upright, and consistent man, and as a mark of their appreciation of his useful labours in the cause of Christ at the east of London for nearly half a century. Tea was provided at six o'clock; after which the Rev. H. Hooper, who occupied the chair, made the presentation, which was appropriately responded to by Mr. Saunders. The Rev. W. Tyler remarked that it

had been said that Sir Christopher Wren would never want a monument so long as any part of St. Paul's Cathedral was visible. The same might be said of Mr. Saunders in regard to Latimer Chapel, for so long as any portion of that edifice remained, for the erection of which he had so largely contributed, his memory would never die out. The meeting was also addressed by Mr. H. R. Williams and Mr. R. Strangman (old Sunday-schoolers of Latimer), Dr. Rose, Messrs. Dale, Pocock, Wood, and Naylor. Mr. Saunders having made a few observations in acknowledgment of the various expressions of good will towards him, offered up an earnest prayer, and the interesting meeting, which was attended by about 200 friends, was brought to a close.

OPENING OF A NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, VICTORIA-PARK.—A new iron church for the accommodation of the church and congregation formerly meeting in the East London Temperance-hall, Peel-grove, Bethnal-green, under the pastoral care of the Rev. H. D. Northrop, B.A., was opened on Tuesday, the 19th inst., for Divine worship. The building, which is situate in the Approach-road, Bethnal-green, is capable of holding about 1,000 persons. The Rev. J. Stoughton, of Kensington, preached in the morning, from the words, "Oh, that I knew where I might find him," to a numerous congregation, after which, a large number adjourned to the Peel-grove Hall, and partook of a cold collation. Dinner having been concluded, the Rev. H. D. Northrop, who occupied the chair, called upon Mr. Althaus, one of the deacons, to read some of the letters they had received from various ministers, expressing sympathy in the movement, and regretting inability to attend, also one from New York, with a remittance of 25*l*. A vote of thanks having been given to the Rev. J. Stoughton for his admirable sermon, the rev. gentleman acknowledged the compliment, and congratulated the church upon their present position, and the success which had attended their efforts, hoping that they would take pattern from their neighbours at Stepney, and speedily get rid of their debt. The Rev. H. D. Northrop then stated that the first meeting of the people interested in that cause, was in Abbey-street School-room, on October 22, 1862, but as it was found that preaching in that building was contrary to the trust-deed, they removed to Peel-grove, and in December of the same year they formed themselves in a church. They were then sixty-five members, and now they numbered more than 200. The building had cost them 1,700*l*. of which amount they had obtained about 700*l*; and they had a lease from the Crown for ninety-two years, with a prospect of obtaining the freehold. He hoped that all would put their shoulders to the wheel, and strive to get the building free from debt before the close of the year. The Rev. J. Kennedy congratulated them on what they had done, and that England and America had completed the work together; he did not know that they could be engaged in a better cause. It was interesting to find an American presiding over an English church, and he believed if John Bull and Brother Jonathan knew one another better, they would be better friends. (Cheers.) The meeting was subsequently addressed by the Revs. J. Spong, J. De Kewer Williams, Mr. Guthrie, &c., after which tea having been partaken of, the company returned to the chapel, when the Rev. S. Martin, of Westminster, preached to a crowded congregation.

SOUTH SHIELDS.—The Congregational chapel in this town has been burdened for eleven years with a chapel debt of 400*l*.; but by the liberality of friends at a distance, and of the people themselves, especially by the indefatigable labours of the pastor, the 400*l*. has been raised, and the chapel has been freed from debt. Little more than a year since the chapel was improved at a cost of 200*l*., thus making in all 600*l*. which has been raised for these two objects alone, in less than three years, as a bicentenary offering and by a church of 100 members, most of whom are very poor. Notwithstanding this heavy outlay, all the interests of the church have been vastly improved.

HOWDEN, YORKSHIRE.—Anniversary sermons, in connection with the Independent church at Howden, were preached on Sunday, the 17th inst., by the Rev. James Bruce, of Manchester, formerly of Howden. The annual tea-meeting was held on Thursday, the 21st inst. The Rev. J. G. Roberts, pastor of the church, presided, and addresses were delivered by the Rev. D. Clegg, of Selby; Rev. T. Morgan, of York; Rev. J. Ingham (Wesleyan); Rev. R. Harley, F.R.S., F.R.A.S., of Brighouse; Rev. S. Gladstone, of Goole; Mr. Ostler, Mr. Brewin, and others. The meeting was one of the most spirited and interesting ever held in Howden. A vigorous effort is being made by the friends to extinguish a debt of 300*l*. remaining on their school-rooms, which they hope, with the assistance of friends at a distance, to see removed by the jubilee anniversary of the schools which will be held in June or July next.

SALFORD—GRATIFYING TRIBUTE TO A CONGREGATIONAL MINISTER.—The congregation and friends of the Rev. T. G. Lee (minister of New Windsor Chapel, Salford) held a *soirée* on Tuesday evening, and presented to that gentleman an address expressive of their high esteem of his personal character, and their appreciation of the efforts which he has made during a ministry at New Windsor of twenty-one years to promote the religious, social, and sanitary improvement of the district. The address, an eloquent and beautiful composition, was engraved upon vellum, illuminated in the mediæval style, and handsomely framed. After the presentation, which Mr. Lee acknowledged briefly, but not without considerable emotion, several gentlemen, including ministers of various denominations, addressed the

meeting, and all testified to the ardour and devotion with which Mr. Lee had not only attended to the interests of his own congregation, but which he had infused into every project calculated to increase the prosperity and happiness of the town and neighbourhood. The Rev. Dr. Parker remarked that his influence, like the spirit of all that was good and true, would not cease with his life, but would abide and be felt for ever. The *soirée* was presided over by the Rev. James Pridie, of Halifax, who himself (upwards of thirty years ago) was the minister of New Windsor Chapel, and whose reappearance amongst those of his old friends who yet survive, was greeted with hearty enthusiasm.

WICKHAMSBROOK, SUFFOLK.—The Rev. H. Coleman having accepted a unanimous invitation from the church at Halesworth, in this county, his friends met on the 19th inst. to take an affectionate leave of him, and to present him with a token of their high esteem. The chair was taken by the Rev. D. W. Evans, Stanfield, who delivered a suitable address expressive of great respect for Mr. Coleman, and deep regret at his removal. He also read a kind letter from the Rev. H. Bromley, Peckham, London, who was unable to attend. Mr. Evans then called upon N. W. Bromley, Esq., Bamsfield Hall, who presented to his late pastor a purse containing fifty-eight sovereigns as an expression of gratitude for his long and faithful service in the Gospel. In addition to the above, a presentation was made to Mrs. Coleman consisting of a handsome cruet-stand and various beautiful articles in silver, as a token of Christian esteem. Mr. Coleman acknowledged both gifts in suitable terms. The Revs. J. Ratter, D. Gifford, W. King, and N. W. Bromley, Esq., addressed the meeting.

KINGSTON-ON-THAMES—OPENING OF THE NEW BAPTIST CHAPEL.—On Thursday, 14th January, this new and elegant edifice, the foundation-stone of which was laid in July last, was opened for public worship. The style of the building is Gothic. It is built of Kentish rag, with Bath-stone dressings. The exterior is plain, substantial, and imposing; the interior is light and attractive, and admirably constructed both for speaking and hearing, while the preacher commands a view of every seat in the place. It has a raised open platform, instead of the old-fashioned pulpit. It is built with end and side galleries, with neat open iron-work front. The chapel will seat 760, or, with the addition of the school-rooms, which communicate with sliding shutters, more than 1,000 persons. The whole of the buildings and their arrangement have commanded universal admiration. The Rev. Wm. Brock, of Bloomsbury, preached on Thursday, Jan. 14th, at twelve at noon. His text was Psalm xc. 16 and 17. The Rev. Wm. Landels, of Regent's-park, preached in the evening, from Numbers x. 29. Both the sermons were very powerful, and specially adapted to the event. Between the services dinner was served to a numerous company in the Town Hall, and tea in the school-room to about 300 persons. On Sunday, the 17th January, the Rev. Dr. Angus preached in the morning; the Rev. Wm. Collings, of Gloucester, in the afternoon; and the Rev. H. Bayley, pastor of the church, in the evening. On Tuesday, the 19th, a public meeting was held in the chapel; Wm. Olney, Esq., of London, in the chair. The Revs. W. G. Lewis, of Bayswater; J. E. Giles, of Clapham; L. H. Byrnes, W. Collings, and A. Mackenall, of Kingston; also W. Higgs and J. Stiff, Esqs., addressed the meeting. On Thursday, June 21st, the Rev. Thomas Jones, of Bedford Chapel, preached an eloquent and impressive sermon from John iv. 24. From the report read by the secretary, J. East, Esq., it appears that the total cost of the building is 2,750*l*. Of this the builder generously gives 250*l*., reducing the amount to 2,500*l*.; of this sum almost the half has been raised exclusive of promises. The opening services were all admirably attended, and the collections and donations amounted to 123*l*. 8*s*. 3*d*.

SOUTHPORT—WEST-END CHAPEL.—The first social tea-meeting of friends connected with the West-end Chapel, Southport, was held in the Temperance-hall on Friday, the 15th inst., under the presidency of the Rev. John Chater. The meeting was addressed by Mr. Chater, the pastor; James Sidebottom, Esq., Manchester; the Rev. T. Gasquoine; Messrs. Hinners, Boothroyd, S. Rimmer, J. Hardcastle, E. J. Rimmer, and other gentlemen; and the proceedings were enlivened by the presence of the chapel choir, who sang several appropriate anthems during the evening. The special feature of the meeting was, however, connected with the financial statements. Although the chapel has been so recently opened, and is entirely a new movement, the funds during the past year, raised by the voluntary offerings of the worshippers, by means of boxes placed at the entrance of the chapel (there being no pew-rents or collections whatever for this object), have sufficed to meet the current expenses connected with the maintenance of public worship. There has been a steady increase in the church and congregation; and although commencing with only twelve members, the church now numbers upwards of fifty, and the indications of spiritual life amongst the people are very apparent. In consequence of the general depression of trade in the manufacturing districts, no effort has been made during the past year to remove the debt upon the chapel, amounting to upwards of 1,500*l*.; but it was felt that something should now be done. Accordingly James Sidebottom, Esq., chairman of the chapel-building committee, visited Southport on Friday, the 15th inst., with a view to excite an interest in this work; and having munificently promised two hundred pounds towards the debt, others were stimulated by his

liberality, so that at the close of the meeting it was announced that nearly 900*l*. had been promised; and a vigorous effort will now be made to remove the whole of the remaining debt as early as possible, and thus set the friends of the chapel at liberty to prosecute the important work of erecting suitable school premises. A Sabbath-school was commenced immediately after the chapel was opened, which now numbers 150 scholars, but the inconvenience arising from want of school accommodation is very great. George Hadfield, Esq., M.P., with his accustomed liberality, has promised a handsome donation towards this object, and it is hoped that during the present year this desirable addition will be obtained. On Monday evening, the 18th inst., the children of the Sabbath-schools took tea in the Temperance-hall, and were afterwards addressed by the Revs. J. Chater, T. Gasquoine, and other friends.

M.P.'s. ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS.

The Right Hon. T. M. Gibson, President of the Board of Trade, addressed a crowded meeting of his constituents, on Wednesday evening, at Ashton-under-Lyne Town-hall; the Mayor presided. Mr. Gibson commenced by a reference to the state of Lancashire, the generous subscriptions for the relief of distress, and the great beneficence of the mill-owners and others in the district. He believed the county of Lancaster had subscribed as much as the whole of the United Kingdom. He thought that they might look forward to an approaching period of reviving prosperity in the cotton trade of this district. Though they had been in the habit of speaking of the cotton industry as the main foundation of England's prosperity, now they saw that industry almost prostrate, and yet there was considerable trade, gradually increasing exports, and much prosperity in various parts of the kingdom. Mr. Gibson gave some important statistics respecting the trade and shipping of the country, and stated that it would be found by tables not yet completed by the Board of Trade, that our exports within the last eleven months were in value greater than had ever been known in the history of the country. The total exports for the eleven months he gave at 130,000,000*l*., against 113,000,000*l*. for the same period in 1862, and 115,000,000*l*. in 1861. He discussed at some length the American question, and could never adopt the conclusion that the Union could not be restored.

As we are told by Mr. Stephens, that this Government of the Confederate States which is about to be established will be the first Government in the history of the world that is giving the lie, as it were, to all the canting policy which has been supported by England and other countries against slave institutions; if this be the state of affairs, can I, as an Englishman, wish or hope for success to such a cause? I sympathise with nations struggling for independence, but that is not the question here. (Hear, hear.) No man has alleged a grievance in the Southern States except the growing sentiment of the North against the institution of slavery. No man has said that in the South any right has been withheld, or that any wrong has been without a remedy, and, in fact, Mr. Jefferson Davis himself has lauded the institutions of the country in reference to the past; but has only said that in the future he sees looming that growing sentiment which will endanger the slave institutions of the South, and which must continue to embitter the relations between the North and the South if it went on, and that therefore it was better to separate. Well, I believe myself that one end of this great civil war in America, that one termination, at any rate, will be abolition of slavery. (Cheers.)

Speaking on the question of Parliamentary reform, Mr. Gibson expressed his opinion that it was a mistake to postpone it; and thought it would be a very wise thing for the Government,—if they could get backed and supported by the country,—to bring forward at no distant day a measure of reform that would extend the franchise to a large number of the working classes, and thus place the institutions of the country upon a broader and surer foundation. It was, however, for the constituencies to say when the season was convenient, as political privileges were never made a gift to any people, unless demanded by those upon whom they were conferred. The Schleswig-Holstein question ought, he thought, to be settled without fighting.

All I know as regards the policy of this Government is that the object they have had in view in any advice that they may have given, or any moral influence that they may have attempted to exercise, their object has been to promote faith to engagements whether on one side or on the other; to promote justice and also to secure peace. (Loud cheers.) But beyond telling you that the question is one which I hope may not give rise to war between any Powers of Europe, beyond telling you that it is impossible for me to form any opinion as to what may be the ultimate views of Prussia, or Austria, or Denmark, on this matter, I know not the grounds upon which they are prepared to settle the question. Our obligation is a very limited one in the matter, and merely relates to the succession. (Hear, hear.) We, no doubt, are parties to the treaty in 1852, which attempted to settle the question of succession of Holstein and Schleswig to the Crown of Denmark. Beyond that I should rather avoid saying anything, for fear I should mislead. (A laugh.)

He knew that official men were supposed to part with their first loves and to form new connections.

I have not done that yet—(cheers)—and I mean upon every occasion when it is in my power to do so to promote those views which gained my favour in the first instance with this constituency,—reform, religious equality, extension of education, freedom of vote—I mean vote by ballot—extension of the franchise. (A Voice—"Retrenchment"!) (Laughter.) My hon. friend says "retrenchment," so say I. (Cheers.) I am for retrenchment. I am sorry to say I don't think

the House of Commons is for retrenchment. It is very great, is a large expenditure, and very difficult for a Government to reduce expenditure if the income shows that there is more money able to be spent. There are always expenses rising up from one of the services or the other, and demands are made for increased expenditure, which it is exceedingly difficult for the Chancellor of the Exchequer—than whom, I assure you, there is no man more inclined for economy—to resist.

Mr. P. A. TAYLOR, the Radical member for Leicester, addressed his constituents on Tuesday evening. While describing the present as a Liberal Government kept in power by a Tory Opposition, he looked forward to the time when the people would demand an extension of their political rights in such a manner that no Government, whether supported by Conservatives or not, would be able to resist the pressure. Having advocated a further reduction of indirect taxation, the hon. member went on to speak of our foreign policy. For America, he counselled neutrality, and declared himself in favour of the North; and, turning to Schleswig-Holstein, he expressed a hope that our Government would take a neutral position with reference to that question also. Finally, he expressed his disapprobation of Earl Russell's despatches to Poland.

Three of the metropolitan members addressed their constituents on Monday evening. Mr. F. DOULTON met a very large number of the electors of Lambeth at the Horns, Kennington. He reviewed the last session, and with respect to reform thought it not unlikely that it would be again referred to in the forthcoming Speech from the Throne. He approved of the neutrality observed by the Government in the American war. With respect to Schleswig-Holstein, he expressed his belief that if England had taken a more decided attitude when the question first arose, the minor German States would have considerably modified their action in the matter. He announced his readiness to support any measure for the abolition of capital punishment. A vote of confidence in him was passed by the meeting. The other two members who spoke were Lord FENBY and Mr. HARVEY LEWIS, who called a meeting in Marylebone. Each praised Lord Palmerston and his administration, each avowed the belief that no Reform measure was likely to be carried until the people spoke out more boldly, each advocated neutrality in the American war, and each declared that he would oppose any measure for the abolition of the law of primogeniture.

THE MEETING OF PARLIAMENT.

The following circular has been issued by the Premier to the supporters of the Government in the House of Commons:—

Downing-street, Jan. 22, 1864.

Sir,—The meeting of Parliament having been fixed for Thursday, the 4th of February, I have the honour to inform you that public business of importance will be brought forward. I beg leave to express my hope that it may be consistent with your convenience to attend at the House of Commons at the opening of the session.—I have the honour to be, Sir, your obedient and faithful servant,
PALMERSTON.

Mr. Disraeli has addressed a note in the usual form to his supporters, asking them to be in attendance at the House of Commons on the 4th of February, "as business of importance may be expected." He gives a banquet on the 3rd.

The Earl of Derby, as leader of the Opposition in the House of Lords, will give a grand Parliamentary dinner on Wednesday, the 3rd proximo, to a large circle of political friends in the Upper House of the Legislature.

It is understood that early in the session a measure will be introduced by her Majesty's Ministers to alter and extend the jurisdiction of the county courts.

Postscript.

Wednesday, January 27, 1864.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

THE DANO-GERMANIC DIFFICULTY.

KIEL, Jan. 27.—It is asserted on good authority that the Federal Commissioners are about to convoke the Estates of Holstein. It is expected that the Elbe will soon be opened for navigation. The ice on the coast of the Baltic is thin. The staff of General Hake, Commander-in-Chief of the Federal troops in Holstein, had arrived at Itzehoe.

VIENNA, Jan. 26.—The Danish Ambassador, Baron von Bulow, has been withdrawn by his Government, and presented his letters of recall to Count Rechberg yesterday.

In the French Corps Législatif yesterday, M. Thiers warmly censured the expedition to Mexico in its present and past condition, as well as with regard to its future consequences. He concluded by demanding that France should treat with Juarez, so as to preserve her honour and interests formerly guaranteed, else the expedition would only result in an indefinite and ruinous occupation. M. Chaix d'Est-Ange defended the expedition as being just, affirmed that it was impossible to treat with Juarez, and expressed a hope that tranquillity would soon be re-established in Mexico. "Then," the speaker said,

"our troops will be able to return." M. Berryer, in reply, said that France had been misled. He maintained that the Government was unpopular in Mexico, and ought to retire. The Left then withdrew its amendment.

The following telegrams respecting the Polish insurrection have been received:—"Intelligence from Lithuania announces the formation of fresh corps of insurgents in that province." "Advices from Warsaw state that another convoy of political prisoners, consisting of 600 persons, has been sent away to Russia. Numerous arrests have recently taken place in Warsaw."

AMERICA.

(Per the City of Baltimore, *via* Crookhaven.)

NEW YORK, Jan. 14 (Evening).

General Johnston has been largely reinforced by extra troops, and maintains a bold front at Dalton and Tunnel-hill.

General Grant is making a tour through his department. The Maryland Legislature have voted by a majority in favour of calling a convention to carry out emancipation.

NEW YORK, Jan. 15 (Evening).

Two blocks of buildings and several large warehouses are reported to have been destroyed in Charleston on the 20th by Gilmore's shells. The city was almost deserted by the military.

It is rumoured that Stuart has with 5,000 cavalry made a raid into Leesburg, the Federals falling back to Fairfax.

The guerilla leader Morgan has had a public reception in Richmond.

General Burnside has been appointed to recruit and fill up the 9th Army Corps, of which he is commander, to the number of 50,000 men.

General Meade has made a speech in Philadelphia, stating that as the weather moderated, and the season allowed, active operations in Virginia would recommence. The war would have to be ended by hard fighting, and he trusted peace would be restored by next summer.

An animated debate has taken place in the Senate on the resolution to expel Senator Davis, of Kentucky, for submitting treasonable resolutions. Davis defended himself. It is not believed that the resolution for expulsion will pass.

A bill has been introduced in the Confederate Congress to tax outstanding Treasury notes at 50 per cent.

The Governor of New Jersey, in his Message to the Legislature, recommends a conciliatory policy towards the South, and declares that emancipation, peace, and the reconstitution of the old Union should be the sole object of the war.

A National Democratic Convention for the nomination of a candidate for the Presidency will be held in Chicago on the 4th of July next.

The municipal report on the condition of the barracks in Broadway, near Astor House, has created much indignation. Sixty men, arrested for various military offences, were found confined in a room fifteen by twenty feet square. Many had been there for months, with no accommodation for sitting or lying down. The report states that they were covered with filth, and treated worse than wild beasts; and that the existence of such a place was an outrage on humanity, bringing disgrace on a nation.

The Judge of the Halifax Admiralty Court has declared that he shall treat the Chesapeake case throughout as piracy.

Southern journals report that the Federal gunboat Iron Age ran ashore on the 11th instant off Wilmington. She was blown up, and twenty-four of her crew captured.

NEW YORK, Jan. 16 (Morning).

Chattanooga despatches of the 11th inst. report that General Longstreet has been reinforced by 12,000 infantry. His entire forces consist of 34,000 infantry and 12,000 cavalry. He is fortifying himself at Bull's Gap.

In Cleveland and Tennessee General Longstreet has levied all able-bodied men by conscription.

Washington despatches assert that the reported raid by General Stuart upon Leesburg is an unimportant affair, as he has not sufficient force to make a demonstration against the Federal right.

General Lee is being reinforced by conscripts, and is organising his cavalry for the spring campaign.

General Butler has sent a messenger to City Point to arrange for an exchange of prisoners, and ordered the Confederate prisoners to be brought into his lines to await release.

The New York Legislature has passed a bill to enable soldiers in the field to vote.

The steamers Dare and Bendigo have been destroyed off Wilmington.

Money easier. Gold 69½ per cent. premium. Exchange on London, 170½.

MR. BRIGHT AT BIRMINGHAM.

Mr. Bright, M.P., and Mr. Scholefield, M.P., attended a meeting in the Town Hall, Birmingham, last evening, for the purpose of addressing their constituents on public affairs. The hall was crowded in every part. Mr. Holliday, Mayor, occupied the

chair. Mr. G. DIXON moved the following resolution:—

The present House of Commons, having been elected on the question of reform, and the majority of its members having pledged themselves to promote an extension of the franchise, this meeting records its opinion that Parliament has failed in its duty in not having passed a measure which would have admitted a large number of the unenfranchised to a real share in the government of the nation. This meeting believes the present period to be favourable to the passing of such a measure, the necessity for which has on various occasions been enforced by her Majesty's Ministers, and by the leaders of both political parties.

The motion, having been seconded by Mr. Alderman MANTON, was put, and unanimously agreed to.

Mr. SCHOLEFIELD, M.P., then addressed the meeting.

Mr. BRIGHT, who was received with enthusiastic cheers, spoke first on the Dano-German question, and said—

If there be a possible Government in our day that will plunge this country into war under the pretence of maintaining the balance of power in Europe, and sustaining any kingdom there, be it little or great, that Government not only is not worthy the confidence of the people of England, but deserving of our execration and abhorrence. (Loud and prolonged cheers.)

Replying to some of the sentiments expressed by Mr. Scholefield, Mr. Bright said, that he must be blind who did not perceive that, through the instrumentality of this strife, that most odious and most indecent offence against man and against Heaven—the slavery and bondage of four millions of our fellow-creatures—was coming to a certain and a rapid end. (Loud cheers.) The hon. gentleman entered at great length into the Cobden and Delane controversy, spoke of the *Times* as a great power in this country, and lamented that so much power should be associated with what he would call a godless intellect and a practical atheism, and that a paper that was once great in its independence had become now—what should he say?—domesticated; for the editor of the *Times* was now domesticated in the houses of Cabinet Ministers and members of high families in London. Mr. Bright then entered at great length into the condition of our agricultural poor, and quoted some strong extracts from the *Saturday Review* in support of his views; alluded to the enormous properties and political power of the great landowners, and to the advantages held out to our labouring population by emigration to the United States. He thought it would be good policy for the rich and the great to try to make this country a more desirable one for the poor to live in. (Cheers.) "If they disregard this great question, we who are of the middle class, or not absolutely powerless class, shall have to decide between the claims of territorial magnates, and the just rights of millions of our countrymen." (Cheers.) Mr. Bright concluded:—

I plead only for what I believe to be just. I wish to do wrong to no man. For twenty-five years I have stood before audiences, great meetings of my countrymen, pleading only for justice. (Loud cheers.) During that time, as you know, I have endured numerous insults; I have passed through hurricanes of abuse. I need not tell you that my clients have not generally been the rich and the great, but rather the poor and the lowly. (Hear.) They cannot give me place and dignities and wealth, but their honourable service yields me that which is of far higher and more lasting value; the consciousness that I have been expounding and upholding laws which, though they were not given amid the thunders of Sinai, are not less the commandments of God, and not less intended to promote and secure the happiness of men. (The hon. gentleman resumed his seat amid great cheering.)

A vote of thanks to Mr. Scholefield and Mr. Bright was subsequently carried.

THE GREAT DIVORCE CASE.—In the Divorce Court yesterday a motion was made in the case *O'Kane v. O'Kane* and Lord Palmerston. The petitioner, it seems, does not push forward the suit, and the motion, which was on behalf of Mrs. O'Kane, was for a rule calling upon him to show cause why he should not proceed with the suit, or otherwise have his petition struck off the file. Amongst the affidavits filed was one in which it was stated that the suit was little else than an attempt to extort money from the co-respondent. Sir J. Wilde granted a rule to show cause why the suit was not proceeded with. As to dismiss the petition, that was a subject for a special application.

THE CHANNEL FLEET.—Portsmouth, Jan. 26.—A report has obtained wide circulation here, and been generally credited, that the Channel fleet will be sent into the Baltic.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

The supply of home-grown wheat received fresh up to this morning's market was very moderate. Good-conditioned samples were taken off slowly, at Monday's currency; otherwise, the trade was dull, at that day's rates. Most descriptions of foreign wheat were in fair supply. In all descriptions, sales progressed slowly, on former terms. Floating cargoes of grain were in slow request, yet no alteration took place in their value, compared with Monday last. With barley, the market was fairly supplied. Good and fine malting qualities moved off steadily, at full prices. Inferior descriptions, however, met a slow sale, at previous quotations. There was a fair demand for malt, at late rates. The supply of oats on sale was moderate. Generally speaking, the trade was steady, at Monday's currency. Beans and peas were in fair average request, and prices ruled firm. For flour, there was a moderate inquiry, at late rates.

ARRIVALS THIS WEEK.

	Wheat.	Barley.	Malt.	Oats.	Flour.
English	470	1,490	2,190	1,740	580
Irish	—	—	—	500	—
Foreign	2,790	11,840	—	3,900	—
					1,070 sack.

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The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1864.

SUMMARY.

THERE is no further news from Northern Europe, beyond that commented upon below, which throws light on the menacing Schleswig-Holstein question. The Austrian and Prussian army of occupation was rapidly being sent into Holstein, and, notwithstanding the recent vote of the Federal Diet and the independent bearing of some of the minor States, the Hanoverian and Saxon contingents have retired from Kiel, and that town is now occupied by Prussian troops. But not for a week to come will the entire forces of the two great German Powers be concentrated on the banks of the Eider, the crossing of which stream will be regarded by Denmark as a declaration of war; and by that time, the disappearance of the ice may have enabled the Danes to make the best use of the Dannenwerk, their celebrated line of defence in Schleswig, which cannot be successfully attacked without great preparation. We now know distinctly the aim of Austria and Prussia in occupying Schleswig. Both Herr von Bismark and Count Rechberg have announced during the week, that, though they do not dispute the succession right of King Christian, they contemplate for the future simply a dynastic union, such as that which unites Norway and Sweden, between Denmark and the Duchies.

The conflict between the King of Prussia and the Chamber of Deputies on this subject has come to a present end by the prorogation of the latter. The Lower House have not only refused a loan on behalf of the Prussian expedition to Schleswig, but have passed a strongly-worded resolution to oppose "by all legal means in their power" the carrying out of a policy which separates Prussia from the rest of the Confederation, would surrender the Duchies a second time to Denmark, and may produce a civil war in Germany. Speaking in their own name, and not in that of King William, the Government declare that they consider it their duty to act for the maintenance of the State. Even in the less independent Austrian Reichsrath there is a disposition to refuse the Government the full supplies required for the occasion, and a resolution in favour of the independence of the Duchies has been carried in that assembly.

Several members of Parliament have been addressing their constituents during the past week, and it is gratifying to find that Mr. Taylor, Mr. Doulton, Lord Fermoy, and Mr. Harvey Lewis concur in deprecating any course which would drag England into war on behalf of Denmark. Mr. Milner Gibson, also, who speaks with the responsibility of a Cabinet Minister, states that the Government are making the most strenuous efforts to preserve the peace of Europe, and admits that our obligation in the Schleswig-Holstein question is a very limited one. Mr. Gibson took the opportunity of reiterating his belief that the American Union might still be restored, and his opinion that it would be a very wise thing for the Government, if they could get backed and supported by the country, to bring forward at no distant day a measure of reform that would extend the franchise to a large number of the working classes, and thus place the institutions of the country upon a broader and surer foundation. But to that end it was necessary that the constituencies should make the demand. In other words, reform must stand over till the country has declared its wishes at a general election.

Last night Mr. Bright met his constituents in Birmingham, and delivered a speech which is reported by telegraph to the extent of six columns

in this morning's papers. We cannot pretend to give even an outline of Mr. Bright's elaborate address. He said, amid loud and prolonged cheers, that any British Government which should plunge this country into war under pretence of maintaining the balance of power in Europe, will be "not only not worthy the confidence of the people of England, but deserving of our execration and abhorrence." Mr. Bright discussed at some length and with much humour the Cobden and Delane controversy, elaborated his former views as to the danger of concentrating land in few hands, while the peasantry were in a debased condition, defined what alteration in our laws respecting the soil he would like to see effected, and expatiated on the advantages that followed from emigration to the United States, whither some 150,000 persons had gone from this country during the past year.

Every recent American mail has brought intelligence showing that the Southern Confederation is gathering up all its resources for a desperate struggle during the ensuing campaign, and that Eastern Tennessee is likely to be the scene of severe conflicts. General Longstreet had been heavily reinforced, and was fortifying his position at Bull's Gap, whence he would have railway communication with Southern Virginia, if not with Georgia, and be able to act with advantage.

The Cape Mail brings a very alarming report that Dr. Livingstone, who had proceeded further inland to the lake of Nyassa, had been murdered by the natives. Happily it is but a mere report. The Governor of Quillimane expresses his belief that the intrepid explorer, though badly wounded, was not yet dead. Further intelligence on the subject will be looked for with anxious interest.

THE MIRAGE OF PEACE.

ON Monday morning, half England rejoiced in confident hope of a continuance of peace—on Monday afternoon, that pleasing hope had vanished. We believe that the *Times* expressed in its first edition the expectation of the British Cabinet—its second edition showed that the expectation, after all, was delusive. It seemed a natural supposition that when Denmark had so far given way as to request sufficient delay to enable her to comply with the Austro-Prussian demands in accordance with her own constitutional forms, the prudence of the two German Powers could hardly allow them to refuse the request. Looking at the present position of the dispute, the passage of the Eider will resemble in temerity, and may possibly surpass in the magnitude of its consequences, the passage of the Pruth by Russia in 1853, or of the Ticino by Austria a few years later. The disapprobation of Europe will have to be faced by those who undertake it, and it may turn out now, as then, that the wilfulness of might will be disappointed in calculating upon the material weakness of right. But it is plain that Austria and Prussia are in greater terror of revolution which is in their rear, than of the kind of war which they have to face. The Reichsrath at Vienna speaks in a tone of rebuke to the Emperor's Government. The Chambers at Berlin are prorogued. The German people are in hot blood choosing to indulge their passion for nationality in preference to submitting to treaty engagements or to the obligations of public law. And so the two Powers rather ostentatiously reject the Danish overture for a reasonable delay, and profess their determination to enter Schleswig. By the terms of the military convention agreed to between them, we are told that the allied troops are to find themselves on the frontier of Schleswig on the 6th of February, and it is assumed that some few days must elapse before the crossing of the river can be attempted. Three weeks, at the utmost, should affairs proceed in their uninterrupted course, will bring Europe to the verge of a precipice—but much may be done in three weeks to avert the calamity of war.

We cannot bring ourselves to believe, even now, that the German Powers will persist in their seemingly headstrong career. The pressure behind them is undoubtedly great—but the uncertainty before them is of the most appalling character. In the first place, they may have to reckon with the anger of the other signatories to the London Treaty, who may, as we hear France is disposed to do, challenge their right to act separately in vindication of it. In the second place, the principles for which they will go to war, are such as, if applied to themselves, would make havoc with their respective dominions. In the third place, it may be assumed as a moral certainty that the two allies will have to deal with other than Scandinavian foes. Prussia might find Posen a troublesome province if her hands were otherwise full, and perhaps might discover reason to dread a sudden pounce by the French Eagle upon her

trans-Rhenish provinces. Austria might be distracted by insurrection in Venetia aided by the military power of Italy, by the uprising of the Poles in Galicia, and of the Magyars in Hungary. These, to say nothing of the exasperation of the secondary and minor States represented in the Federal Diet, would fearfully complicate the position of the two Powers. Europe incensed, their own subjects infuriated, their non-German subjects everywhere in insurrection against them, and their own example trampling in the dust their own claims and pretensions—surely, within three weeks they will think a second time of their project, and consult that "discretion" which is "the better part of valour." Until they have taken the irrevocable step—until they have actually pushed their forces across the Eider, we cannot believe that they will brave the tremendous issues which their rashness may bring to trial.

The *Morning Post*, whose information on foreign affairs is always early and generally reliable, says, "So surely as the Germans cross the Eider, so surely will they array against them the arms of England; so certainly will they find the soldiers of France presently moving on the Rhine, and the forces of Italy on the Venetian frontier." This is probably intended only as a warning of what the *Post* anticipates will happen. We hope that it does not, in this instance, propound the contingent policy of the British Government, nor even the secret intention of Lord Palmerston, that journal's constant patron. We must say, however, that it gives an ominous explanation of the naval and military activity said to pervade the yards and arsenals at Woolwich. The Austro-Prussian intervention may be carried to an utterly unjustifiable extent—but it is difficult to see why the Government and the people who refused to make war in behalf of Poland, should find themselves bound to take arms in behalf of Denmark. Is their honour more nearly touched in the latter than in the former case? Does the Treaty of London assume in their eyes a greater importance than that of the Treaty of Vienna? Do they sympathise with the Danes more deeply than with the Poles? Are the dangers to which war will expose the "balance of power" less in the case of the Schleswig-Holstein question, than in that of the Duchy of Warsaw? We do not believe that the English people recognise any obligation to take active part in this petty quarrel. We doubt whether they are disposed to risk so much in connection with a matter that they have never clearly understood, and in the settlement of which, this way or that, they have so little interest.

We shall probably hear more of this next week. Parliament will then be in session, and Ministers will be compelled in the debate on the Address to throw some light upon the situation. We apprehend that the prospect of another and a needless war will not increase the stability of the Palmerston Administration. But, be this as it may, we feel convinced that it will not please the temper of the constituent bodies. Russia, it is expected, will be neutral. France, we are told, refuses to commit herself. Why is England to rush forward into the breach, and generalise a contest which, but for her, might be localised? Are Russia and France less sensitive of their national honour than Great Britain? We covet no Rhine provinces. We have no Venetia to recover. Why are we to be the first in a strife in which we must lose much, and can gain nothing? The country will expect a definite answer next week to these and similar inquiries. Notwithstanding the warlike tone of the *Post*, we cherish the hope that the policy of the Cabinet will be found in harmony with the sentiment of the nation—and, for the present at least, we are sure that that is opposed to a war with Germany for the sake of helping Denmark to retain the Duchy of Schleswig.

THE LIGHTS AND SHADOWS OF THE COTTON DISTRESS.

We are grieved at being compelled to recognise a rather rapid increase in the number of unemployed operatives in the cotton districts. The last monthly report delivered in to the General Relief Committee by their able and indefatigable secretary, Mr. Maclure, is somewhat gloomy in its tenour. From the end of October last to the close of the year, the number of persons relieved by the boards of guardians and the local committees increased from 160,170 to 180,909. That number has been largely augmented during the present month—for during the week immediately preceding the 16th inst. not fewer than 5,313 were added to the list. The Public Works Act does not appear to be productive of all the relief anticipated from it—only 2,281 cotton operatives being as yet employed under its provisions. The increase of the distress was not unanticipated, and bids fair to be but of limited duration. But

it is none the less real while it lasts, and calls for our sympathy, if not our assistance. The funds in the hands of the General Relief Committee are 203,173*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.* There are also 87,730*l.* 11*s.*, the balance of the Cotton Districts Relief Fund, and 40,881*l.* 7*s.* 11*d.* of the Liverpool Fund. We trust these amounts may be found sufficient to help Lancashire through this unexampled and protracted trial.

There is a brighter side to this dispensation—lights as well as shadows in the terrible picture. The quiet, resigned, magnanimous endurance of the operatives throughout this lengthened season of distress has been beyond the reach of praise. Our admiration is too deep for utterance. We stand dumb in the presence of so glorious a moral spectacle. Of the prompt and liberal contributions of the general public, England may well be proud, not merely in respect of the aggregate amount that was subscribed, but of the hearty spontaneity with which it was given. The effect was not only to furnish the Relief Committees with the means of supplying the wants of the needy who were dependent on them, but also to stimulate boards of guardians into a somewhat more generous interpretation of the public trust committed to them. In the distribution of the large amount of money thus subscribed, there must have been a well-organised, all-pervasive, and untiringly active machinery, which seems, for the most part, to have performed its labours free of expense. Of 8,461*l.* 3*s.* 1*d.*, the entire cost of management—about seven-eighths per cent. of the whole amount received—4,386*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* was absorbed by the advertisements of the subscriptions—so that little could have been left, after the rent of rooms and the hire of clerks, for any one to profit by—and it is observable that the interest of money allowed by the bankers exceeded the whole of the expenses of the General Committee by nearly one-half—the sum being 12,154*l.* 12*s.* 11*d.*, against 8,461*l.* 17*s.* 5*d.*

There is yet another topic for gratulation—the splendid liberality of the employers and mill-owners. They were accused in the early period of the distress, of a selfish indifference to the claims of their workpeople. Here and there, no doubt, might be found individuals to whose conduct the accusation did no injustice. Cases also might be adduced of masters who held back for awhile on prudential grounds—not to spare their own purses, but to save from demoralisation their own operatives, or to reserve themselves for the moment when the tide of public benevolence would ebb. But, as a body, the “cotton lords” have exhibited a true nobility of feeling. We have had several illustrations of this within even our limited range of observation. We have heard of many more. But the amplest evidence of it will be found, first, in the tranquil behaviour of the workpeople throughout the district, and secondly in the reports of the Factory Inspectors. These official gentlemen, in the execution of their ordinary duty, necessarily possessed the means of acquiring detailed information, such as fall to the lot of no other. We cannot find space to quote from their deeply interesting records. We observe, however, that it was no uncommon thing for masters whose mills worked but two days, to pay their hands for three, or where the mills were entirely stopped, to give half-a-crown a-week to every man, 1*s.* 6*d.* to every woman, and 1*s.* to every young person under sixteen years of age, in their employment. Besides this weekly contribution, many of the wealthier manufacturers had sewing classes, paid for the schooling of children, sold food at wholesale, or below wholesale prices, opened soup-kitchens, remitted rents of cottages, and liberally assisted the poor in many other ways. “The fact is,” says one of the Inspectors, “scarcely a week elapses but that in the course of my official wanderings, I come across some quiet, unobtrusive act of kindness on the part of masters towards their hands, scarcely known beyond the gates of the factory where it originated, but which shows that they have come nobly forward, with one or two exceptions, to endeavour to allay, by all the means in their power, the distress which so unhappily prevails among us.”

The dearth of cotton, then, has not been all loss to Lancashire. Her moral gains have been great. When the crisis is fully past, and the industry resumes its wonted course, masters and men will probably find reason to look back upon the fearful calamity through which they passed together with increased mutual respect, and with gratitude to Him who “stays his rough wind in the day of his east wind.” The country, too, has ground for thankfulness that there is more soundness of heart among her manufacturing children than they had previously received credit for. Perhaps, our rulers might do well to study the picture which this crisis has set before them, and might infer from it the importance of recognising moral character as the best basis for political privilege, and of taking care lest the earnings of the hard-working and patient people

be needlessly squandered away in unnecessary and unjustifiable wars.

THE COMING SESSION.

THE Parliamentary bugle is piercing the air, and summoning our legislators from the four corners of the land to conference—and to dinner. The Earl of Derby and Earl Granville, Lord Palmerston and Mr. Disraeli, have each issued their cards of invitation to the inevitable banquet which, according to the sacred English custom, precedes or follows business; and the leaders of the Commons have sent the more general circulars to their usual supporters to invite their early attendance to-morrow week, the opening day of the Session, when, as the Premier says, “business of importance will be brought forward,” or, in the less authoritative language of uninitiated Mr. Disraeli, “may be expected.” “The greater the feast, the greater the fray,” says one of our time-honoured proverbs, which may possibly receive a fresh illustration in connection with the coming Session. It is true that the circulars of Lord Palmerston and Mr. Disraeli are worded according to established precedent, but the unusual parade in the announcement of the preliminary banquets may have a special meaning.

It is indeed given out by no less an authority than the *Saturday Review* that the truce of last Session, enjoined by Court convenience, is at an end, and that the Conservatives are about to close their ranks, and prepare for an assault on Downing-street. When united, they are undoubtedly a formidable party; but we have yet to learn that they have composed their internal differences; that Lord Robert Cecil and the Protestant ‘squires have forgotten their antipathies to their ostensible leader; and that Mr. Walpole and Mr. Henley are again content to run in harness. But it is undeniable that the special organs of the party are confident and jubilant; and the *Saturday Review* takes some pains to show that a Tory Administration could now do no harm, and, such being the case, that it might be an advantage to the country for the Opposition leaders to renew and increase their official experience. If the Conservatives intend this Session to bid for office, or to precipitate a general election, the ingenuity of Mr. Disraeli will not fail in finding a pretext for active hostilities. He may arraign the foreign policy of Earl Russell, either on the Danish question, or on the Imperial proposal for a European Congress; unite with some of the independent Liberals in denouncing the Kagosima outrage, or the policy of the Government in China; or, relying upon the declared alliance of the Catholic members, may challenge a general vote of confidence in an administration which has failed to satisfy the expectation of its supporters and has lost prestige with the country at large.

With the possibility—we might almost say the probability—of an active campaign in Parliament, followed by an early dissolution, it would be a vain attempt to cast the horoscope of the approaching Session. A war in Northern Europe, also, might completely alter the complexion of events, and stay Parliamentary strife. But that we are likely to have a Session prolific in beneficial legislation, few can be sanguine enough to believe. If Ministers have resolved upon a programme of useful measures, they have been signally successful in keeping their secret. Parliamentary reform is no longer an item in the Palmerstonian creed; Church-rates, a grievance only to be used as political capital. A repeal of the law of settlement is too bold a proposal to expect from a Government which aims to “make things pleasant” to the all-powerful landed interest. But the question of prison discipline and convict management cannot be delayed, and some bill, founded on the report of the late Commission, may be expected. Lord Westbury’s zeal for law reform will, no doubt, produce some tangible results, and Mr. Gladstone will, perhaps, elaborate a budget near akin to, and as unexceptionable as, that of last year.

It is a bad sign—a true index, we fear, of the apathy of the nation—when the Parliamentary Session opens with a Government floundering about for want of a policy, when Liberals look on unconcernedly or timidly while the principles of their opponents guide the conduct of their leaders, and when nothing is in prospect but a struggle for power. It is to the Conservative rather than the Liberal benches that we now look to dispel political drowsiness. Let Mr. Disraeli unfurl his flag, and he will oblige the Government to take up a definite position in reference to the domestic questions of the day or to retire.

The present aspect of political affairs seems to us to give renewed cogency to the advice, which is already in many quarters being followed, to waste no energy upon a Parliament near its end,

and concentrate it all in preparation for the coming election. The Conservatives are evidently ready for a dissolution. Are the Liberal party and the friends of religious equality equally prepared for that eventuality? There are, indeed, some signs of a revival of the old and almost forgotten programme—“Peace, Retrenchment, and Reform,” but the great mass of the party seem to be waiting for a signal from above instead of trusting to themselves. To-morrow evening a public meeting, convened on a requisition, signed among others by seven aldermen of the borough, is to be held at Bradford, “to consider the present position of the Liberal party, with respect to the Reform question and the approaching general election.” This is a hopeful movement, which, if followed up in other towns, will soon act with startling effect upon the Treasury bench of the House of Commons, and enable the party to face a general election with a pronounced and well-defined creed which may unite all sections of Liberals in one phalanx.

“ONLY.”

SOME little time ago, after a weary week of work, we started out one Sunday morning to hear a popular preacher, hoping to be refreshed thereby, and to obtain that amount of spiritual nutriment—rather exceptionally realised, we fear—which good people are apt to describe by the phrase of getting “on one day the food of seven.” “Blessed are they that expect nothing, for they are sure not to be disappointed”—said Dean Swift, and we so often experience the truthfulness of it, that we are quite inclined to forgive its seeming irreverence. But on this occasion, the words involuntarily came almost to our lips, as we looked eagerly towards the pulpit on entering the aisle, and saw there a head and face which was not the old familiar one. A fussy ancient pew-opener was asked by a lady, who seemed equally disappointed with ourselves, where Mr. So-and-so was, and who was the gentleman that was filling his place. To the first interrogatory she returned a long deliberate shake of her head; but to the second, she made a reply, in a brisk clear tone, which must have been distinctly audible at the distance of many pews,—we feel some doubt as to whether the pulpit even was beyond the range,—“I’m sure I don’t know, he’s only a student as they’ve got from somewhere!” The lady turned and walked out, but we sat down, a little perhaps in the old spirit, to see the end. “Only a student!”—we are not great upon prophecy, or the interpretations thereof, but few people would think of that preacher’s youth, after listening to the sermon which we heard that morning, and many will probably feel as disappointed hereafter, when they shall miss him from his accustomed post some Sunday, as we own we did when our eye first rested on him. But the pew-opener’s expression set us thinking—“only”—how much may be implied in just one short word! Of course, her opinion was utterly valueless, as opinions given so flippantly will most generally be found to be, but she did her little best to prejudice the congregation against their “supply.”

Is not the word generally an index rather to the state of mind in the speaker than an evidence of any real falling short of the mark on the part of the person spoken of? “Only!” you may almost as well charge a man with breaking every one of the ten commandments *seriatim*, as give a description of his character, and end it with that word, and a certain elevation of the eyebrows—or, if you have contracted any foreign habits, a shrug of the shoulders, indicating the reverse of respect. Your auditor cannot fail to perceive your meaning, and while assigning a certain place mentally to the object of your contempt, will probably put you in another not very far off. We confess to a very great dislike for this ugly, objectionable, and in the main, disparaging word. We wish we could clothe words with suitable bodies, and bestow upon them faces in harmony with what, to us, seems to be their general meaning—an outward and visible sign, in fact, of something, however, which is not always an inward grace. We should give “only” a tiny, meagre, shrivelled body, and an angular, suspicious, mistrustful face, from out of whose mouth could come such words as these:—“Yes, he is, a clever man; rather, at least; only”—“They do live in style now, but they have gone up in the world greatly, their father was only”—“Oh! you think her pretty? Well, she is a nice girl, of course, but as to looks she is only”—Don’t trouble yourself to finish either of those sentences; they are sufficiently explicit, and it will not be your fault, if the friend to whom you are speaking resolves to commence or even continue an acquaintance with either of the

individuals upon whom you have exercised your petty ostracism. Of all assassins, the man who stabs you in the back is held to be the meanest, and of all ways of injuring character, the intended disparagement of that sneaking little "only" is well-nigh the worst. We feel for ourselves that we would most carefully avoid the slightest approach to intimacy with any one who was in the habit of thus describing his associates.

But to go somewhat deeper—on what kind of foundation does "only" rest? All judgment of another presupposes the existence of a certain definite standard in the mind of the judge, a holding of the balances, with a weight of well-understood quantity already in one scale. In most cases, is not that same standard and weight a very self-constituted test—varying not a little according to our estimate of the person or thing tried, and of the feeling which we perhaps endeavour to smother down, that in the matter now under consideration, our hands are very clean, and we are therefore entitled to play the part of justice, bandaged eyes and all? "Who accuses, excuses," says a French proverb—truly enough; the mood in which we most readily and severely judge our neighbour, is certainly that in which we shall be most lenient to ourselves. David's anger was kindled, we are told, as the prophet narrated the story of the rich man's oppression of his poor neighbour, but the corpse of the murdered Uriah did not haunt his midnight dreams, or even make him falter as, with the consciousness that the power of the executive was in his own hands, he exclaimed, "The man that hath done this thing shall surely die." Alas! poor King David! "only" in his case was as a flowing mantle which covered up his own iniquity, but which rendered him thereby a keen and prompt judge over others—and that assumed right of arbiter is one in which he has a long line of successors.

And yet, surely, it is hardly possible for a man to mingle with his fellow-men at all, without insensibly contracting a habit of passing judgment upon them, mentally at all events? To regard all whom we meet as if they were bullets run into the same mould, and perfectly free from all the angles and corners, which, however much they may sometimes discompose us by running sharply into us, still constitute the difference between A and B, and make what we call individual character,—to be blind to all this, argues either a strange want of perception, or thorough mental incapacity. Quite true; and the power of realising these diversities of idiosyncrasy is one of the great enjoyments of our intercourse with each other. What we mean earnestly to deprecate is, the unnecessary seeking out of the weak points, and dwelling on them until other and higher elements of character are lost sight of; the cultivation of that habit of judging, which at last makes unqualified praise an impossibility. There are some people in the world to whom we should not like to act as cicerone: if you show them a beautiful landscape, it would be perfect only that more wood is wanted; read them a new poem—its rhythm does not fall musically on their ears. Like Mordecai sitting at the king's gate, there is an "only" everywhere which spoils all. We feel half-disposed to consign such objectors to Haman's fate, and so rid ourselves of them and of their querulousness together.

We have written at length on what we may call the accusing side of our motto, but have hardly left ourselves space for a word about the excusing "only." "Master Frank will do it only this once, and then he will be so sorry," said a little boy in our hearing when told that he was not to repeat some childish offence. Many older people will not fail to remember occasions on which they too have felt inclined to strike a similar bargain with their consciences, and, in prospect, have intended to atone for the once only by a long and severe repentance. As far as the little boy was concerned, observation enables us to say that it became quite a household word with him, and the promised penitence followed just as much a matter of course. It will do us all good for a time to reverse our usual mode of proceeding, and while presenting the excusing side to our friends, and giving them the full benefit of all that it may imply, bring it to bear in the completeness of its severity "only" upon ourselves.

FATALITIES DURING THE LATE FROST.—According to the return of the Registrar-General, no less than twelve nonagenarians died during the week before last in London. The oldest was a widow, who had attained the age of 97 years. The increase in the mortality during the week was very great. The total number of deaths was 2,427. The average of the last ten years, taking into account the increase of population, has been 1,550, so that the deaths last week were 877 above the average. "These persons," says the Registrar-General, "were killed almost suddenly by the cold wave of the atmosphere."

Correspondence.

THE WORKING MEN'S CLUB AND INSTITUTE UNION.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In the absence of Lord Brougham, the President of this Union, I beg leave, as one of its Vice-Presidents, to address you on its claims to an increased measure of public support.

I cannot think it requisite, in doing so, to dwell on the general merits of the question. I do not believe there is any one who denies that such clubs, admitted to be of advantage to the classes above working men, are so to them likewise, when established on sound principles. It is also manifest that they are capable of far greater extension throughout the country than they have yet received.

If it were necessary, the Council could illustrate both these points, on which many persons are only generally informed, to any amount of detail, from their own experience since this Union was formed.

Especially in towns, they know of vast numbers of cases, both of young men and of married men, who have no means of enjoying lawful recreation and refreshment, and the society of their equals, but in public-houses, which, originally intended for "licensed victualling," to supply the public with meals and refreshment, or to provide entertainment for travellers, have become, in many instances, mere tippling-houses, and, in any case, ought not to be the working man's sole resource for meeting his comrades, whether for social intercourse and amusement, or for business purposes connected with friendly societies and the like.

With regard to the extension of the system, it may be enough to say that the applications to the Council for advice and aid in establishing clubs, from persons of every class in the country, average between thirty and forty a-week; that in little more than a twelvemonth, during which the Union has been in active operation, more than forty clubs have been actually established under its auspices, and as many more are now in process of formation. The secretary has attended, by request, more than a hundred meetings in various places in the same time.

It is undoubtedly difficult to add, for any purpose, a new society to the vast number already existing in this country. This Union, however, could be made permanently efficient by the possession of an income moderate when compared with many others, though far beyond what it has at present.

That it has hitherto failed to obtain it is probably owing to one or both of two causes:—

1. The need of such a central association not being perceived.
2. The belief that the Union, or any similar body, must interfere, or has interfered, with the freedom of the local management of clubs.

I cannot but maintain that both these objections, if they exist, are due to misapprehension.

Central societies for the promotion of objects which must be locally pursued have long been familiar to the mind of this country. We admit their value in the case of religious enterprise, both at home and abroad; of agricultural and manufacturing improvement; of the amelioration of the dwellings of the poor; of book-hawking, and many others.

This Union exists under the same conditions, and there are obvious special grounds on which its utility may be asserted.

We entirely admit that, when once established, these clubs should be self-supporting as regards their current expenditure. But their expenditure is one thing—the outfit, so to speak, the cost of setting a club on foot, is another. Current expenditure is made up of small sums which are within the reach of working men of provident habits; the first cost requires a block sum, which, though not large, is just what the working class cannot command. To aid them in doing so, and to supplement the local aid which may be given towards that end (when such local aid is forthcoming, which in the poorer parts of the country is not always found to be the case), seems to be an unexceptionable object for a central association.

Further, it may seem that the principle of absolute self-support, even in a pecuniary sense, should be limited to the ordinary expenditure. Occasional aid towards procuring more expensive books, diagrams, lectures, apparatus, and the like, may surely be given without interference with the independence and self-respect of the members.

The case seems even more clear with respect to the operations of the Union apart from its giving pecuniary assistance. Whatever progress in enlightenment the labouring class may make, it can never be the case that in any given place they will be able to organise for themselves, without assistance, such institutions as clubs, as well as they could with the advice and help of a central body.

These clubs are of very various degrees of goodness, and have met with very various measures of success. They depend, to a great extent, on general principles, modified according to local circumstances; and a society which can collect from, and diffuse through, the whole country the results of the experience of so many different bodies, in addition to those of the ability and judgment of competent persons, whose services it can secure for itself, must be of considerable use to the cause.

In the application of these and similar means the Union has expended above 700*l*. This sum has arisen chiefly from donations; the annual income is not more than 150*l*. It is obvious that with that amount of income little or nothing can be done.

It will be admitted by all who are acquainted with such subjects, that the most effective of all engines for such work as this is the service of a competent secretary, who is ready, when requested by those who want help, to give it, and to visit any part of the country, and advise on the spot as to the establishment of a club, or on the measures to be adopted in any difficulty. It is plain that the services of no competent person can be secured for less than a sum much exceeding the whole present income of the Union; and there are, of course, many other inevitable charges.

The present secretary, whose zeal and efficiency cannot be questioned, has done and is doing no slight portion of his work gratuitously; but it is impossible that that should continue.

On the second point, I have to say that there is no

ground whatever for imputing or apprehending interference on the part of the Union with local managers. We make no conditions or stipulations with them; we know of no distinctions of sect or opinion. Such distinctions are not admitted in the case of the clubs of other classes, and we do not recognise them in those which we promote. And so far from the managers of the Union attempting to enforce notions of their own on the local authorities, I may mention that, whereas I believe the majority of the council (among which, however, I am not myself to be reckoned) would have desired to make it a condition of union with us that the rules of the club should forbid the use of intoxicating liquors, they have forborne to introduce such a condition, and have confined themselves to the expression of the opinion that such a rule is, in present circumstances, generally advisable, rather than infringe on the principle of local liberty.

On these, among other grounds, we think we may reasonably ask for increased support.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,

LYTTELTON.

Working Men's Club and Institute Union,
180, Strand, W.C.

January 21, 1864.

MR. NEVILLE'S LETTER TO MR. GLADSTONE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I quite believe that if Mr. Neville's letter to Mr. Gladstone could be published in a very cheap form it might be circulated by tens of thousands, and be read with advantage by all classes as well as all parties.

Mr. Neville's distinction of "religious" and "political" Dissenters will, I hope, awaken both sections to a higher sense of their responsibilities. But if the term "political" was intended to convey the idea that such parties were necessarily irreligious, the distinction is as unfair as it is, happily, unjust. I do not believe it was so intended by the author of the letter.

I will merely add, that if thirty years' experience in such matters entitles me to give an opinion on the relative value of the efforts of the two sections in securing an extension of our civil and religious rights, I unhesitatingly affirm, that if the "religious Dissenters" had been as consistent and honest in the exercise of their electoral duties as the "political," questions which now divide the constituencies would have been settled long ago in our favour.

Yours, &c.,

JOHN G. WIGG.

Lynn, 25th January, 1864.

[The publisher of this pamphlet has requested us to remind our correspondent that very great facilities have been offered to those who are desirous of widely circulating it. The Liberation Society have undertaken to send copies free by post to any persons—Churchmen especially are alluded to—whose names are forwarded to them by friends of the society. Those who may be desirous of purchasing a large number for personal distribution may obtain them at a very reasonable rate (according to the number required) by communicating direct with the publisher, Arthur Miall, 18, Boulevard-street, E.C.—Ed. *Noncon.*]

THE ELECTORAL POLICY OF THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I have very carefully read all that has appeared in the *Noncon.* respecting the plan put forward by the committee of the Liberation Society for the guidance of voters at the next general election.

I am now an old man, and have been more than a mere spectator of passing events, having had my goods seized several times for Church-rates.

Under these circumstances, you will readily suppose that I take a deep interest in the present position of religious, or rather civil, questions. My heart was cheered on first reading the electoral document put forth by the committee, and lively hopes and anticipations were excited.

But I must confess to a considerable degree of disappointment. I hope and trust it will turn out that I am now under a mistake, but when I observe such great stress laid upon the words, "having regard to their relative strength upon the register," my heart sinks, and I am ready to think it will be only "a flash in the pan" after all.

I freely confess I am not at all satisfied that where the friends of equality are about a moiety, if not the majority on the register, they should be satisfied with returning one member. This would be just to agree to a plan which would make the borough stand for 0. Besides this, the putting forth of such a proposition will give to the obstructive Whigs a great advantage over us as a party, which they well know how to use.

I believe that where one-fourth of a constituency are men of thorough principle—with that moral courage which will enable them to stand steadily by their opinions—they will do far more for their advancement than will be accomplished in another borough where a full half belong to the equality party, but are very careful not to require more than is quite fair.

The present opportunity is one in which a very decided impression may be made on the country, and a great lift given to our principles. But if through cowardice, or an excessive desire to avoid giving offence to the Conservative Dissenters, another edition of pure Palmerstonianism should be brought out, then let the advocates of religious equality go into mourning.

To meet this calamity, however, let all who sympathise with the writer nerve themselves up for the conflict, and not fear to let their resolution be known never again to commit the great blunder of voting for a pure Whig. Whatever others may do, let us preserve our own self-respect, and not fear the result.

I well remember an election more than a dozen years ago in an eastern county, when a number of Dissenting electors agreed that they would not vote for any candidate unless he would promise to vote for the abolition of Church-rates. No candidate above a thorough Whig came forward. The small company referred to were most earnestly requested to give their promises. They, however, resisted all solicitations till near the close of the election, when the usual arguments were so eloquently plied that one and another voted for the Whig, till only one remained. He was fairly worried for his vote, but he meant what he said, and in the best of

temper told them so. He had the courage to stand alone. When the poll had closed, and the numbers from the different polling places were collected, the Pliables had the great satisfaction of finding that their man was some hundreds below the Tory, and their consistency and self-respect sadly tarnished. After the election, the wife of the only thorough man in the county said to me, "Well, poor creatures, they always did vote for the orange ribbon, and they could not help it this time."

Now, supposing this little company to have been about fifty, by standing firmly by their principles they would have done much good to their cause; but by voting as they did, real injury was done. The true man and his wife are not now living, and it is highly probable the Whig party will consider that they have the measure of the others.

I fear, Sir, that such circumstances will be not uncommon in the next general election.

I am, Sir, yours,
AN OLD STAGER.

THE CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—Having read with great interest, and also surprise, the letter which appeared in a recent issue of the *Nonconformist*, respecting the Congregational School, Lewisham, I feel it my duty to ask if you will allow me to add a few words on the subject. I have deferred writing, in the hope that some abler person might come forward. I was, I say, surprised at the contents of this letter, because I was not aware that there was any bad impression upon the public mind, generally or in part, with regard to this institution. But I am still more at a loss to know what can have caused that impression. Having been a scholar and afterwards a teacher in the establishment, I have had more than ordinary opportunities of forming a correct opinion of its working. If the dissatisfaction springs from the idea that the education given is not sufficiently adapted to prepare the pupils for commercial life, but rather for a profession, I must say that this is altogether groundless. Nor am I alone in this assertion; for, Sir, I am confident that all those who have had opportunities of judging will agree with me. Even if this were the case, surely it is better than the meagre education nine-tenths of their parents would otherwise be able to afford them. But, apart from this, there are peculiar advantages to be derived from an institution of this kind, by the pupils, as ministers' sons. For instance, the fact that they are all sons of men of the same profession creates a feeling of unity amongst them. I can speak for myself. If there was anything that gave me a brotherly feeling towards my school-fellows, it was this consciousness. As to the general conduct of the boys, I don't wish to set them up as *par excellence*; but from what I have seen and heard of other schools, I conclude they will bear comparison with any. And this is certainly a high standard on which to put them, considering that they are for the most part from small towns and villages. In conclusion, Sir, allow me to say that I, with hundreds of others who have left that school, can fully endorse the sentiments expressed in the letter of one of the boy's fathers, which was quoted by the secretary with regard to themselves. I feel that I shall consequently never be able to repay the debt of gratitude which I owe to the governors of that establishment for the inestimable advantages which I have derived from it,—for the thoroughly good foundation which I received to build upon for future life, and which, but for that institution, I should never have enjoyed. I must apologise for the liberty I have taken in thus occupying so much of your valuable space,

And am, Sir, respectfully yours,
A CONGREGATIONAL MINISTER'S SON.

DUTY OF PETITIONING.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—The parable of the talents, put forth the great Teacher, adumbrates the axiom: *that to use every gift of the Creator is a positive duty*. Our experience, as members of the great nation to which we belong, establishes that we have certain rights as British citizens, and one of these rights is to petition the Legislature.

As these rights, and this right of petitioning in particular, are gifts given to us as born, by the providence of God, within the British Isles, we are bound to use them; that is, there is no choice given us: we must exercise this right, this God's gift, whenever circumstances present themselves in the course of our national affairs which are violative of the law of love to our neighbours. We are bound to bear our testimony, and to petition for what is right, and thus free ourselves from the blood of all men.

I acknowledge that there is much to contend against in getting professing Christians to recognise this duty.

One will cry out, "We are bound to submit to the ordinances of men." In so quoting this passage, the quoter totally forgets that one of the ordinances of men in the British Isles is this very right of petitioning, and the proper submission to it is to use the ordinance which prescribes the petitioning the Parliament.

Another will cry out that Christians should not interfere with the things of this world: that the potshards of the earth are to strive with the potshards, the arguer forgetting all the while, that the exercise of our right as a British citizen, is merely putting the talent into use, instead of wrapping up in a napkin "till the Lord come"; and it is very sad, that such wrapping up some justify by the idea of waiting till the Lord does come. This duty of petitioning, i.e., using the civil rights, given to us by the Divine Providence, by causing us to be born in the British realms, is justified by the manly and truly civic conduct of Paul, who, when put into prison unjustly and when subsequently requested to leave the prison, sent word to the magistrates, i.e. the civil power, to come and take him out: who (Paul) again, when about to be beaten with stripes, claimed his rights as a Roman citizen; "Beatest then me, a Roman, uncondemned": and, further, when the Jews attempted to entrap and destroy him, by getting him to be tried in Judaea, where he would be sure not to have justice done to his cause, claimed his right of appeal to Cæsar, which a Roman citizen possessed—"I appeal to Cæsar."

I am inclined to believe, that Paul understood the right way of using all gifts committed to him, whether social, civic, or religious, quite as well as any Christian who now lives.

Another, who wishes to offend no one, and therefore puts up his talent of petitioning in the napkin of non-use, quotes, as justificatory of his neglect, the passage, "Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord," forgetting that the Israelites did not long stand still, but directly the way was opened to them, marched quickly across the sea: i.e., they stood still to see in which line their duty lay, and then energetically did it.

What is proposed is this,—That persons who feel it to be a duty to petition Parliament should form a society for the purpose of sending individual petitions on any subject which may come up during the sitting of Parliament. That information should be circulated to each member of the society, pointing out the reason for petitioning in any individual case, and the chief points to be noted in the petition. That written headings to the petition should be prepared, and forwarded to each member, the member filling up his own petition in words which he himself may select, &c.

Thus, for instance, petitions will be required, that the conduct of the officials who burned the city of Kagosima be inquired into. That justice should be done to the Maories. That no war should be entered into without the consent of Parliament being previously obtained. That justice should be done to the parties who illegally kept under arrest Sergeant Lilley and others; and in reference to many subjects which may arise as the session advances.

Many have an idea that petitioning Parliament is of no use; it is asserted that the petitions, when presented, are merely mumbled over, and the petitions are tumbled into the waste-basket of the House.

Even were this all true, it would not militate against petitioning; first of all, the member of the House who presents the petition becomes acquainted with the views of his constituents; secondly, he has to go through the form of presenting the petition to the House, the character of the petition is often published in the newspaper reports; and the petition is stated as to its prayer in the daily report issued to each member of the House.

Water continually dropping makes a hole in a stone; so the continuous iteration of the subject petitioned about, will at last arrest the attention of the members of the House, and thus will create "a House opinion," which, like public opinion, will act on the mind of the House.

But, even, were it possible that no effect were produced, the petitioner who has petitioned against an injustice has freed himself by the means appointed by the constitution and by the law from being a participator in the injustice.

Any one anxious to aid in this object, or willing to suggest any means likely to aid in its realisation, if communicating by letter with myself will be welcomed.

Believe me, sincerely yours,
JOHN EPPS, M.D.

89, Great Russell-street, Bloomsbury,
Jan. 25, 1864.

THE WEEKLY OFFERING AND THE REV. JOHN ROSS.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—How far the "weekly offering" may be advantageous in securing for our various religious objects more of the silver and gold which we all know is so necessary (in the present day especially), I am of course quite unable to say—neither indeed is it my purpose to enter into the question as such, apart from its frequent expounder and supporter in your columns, the Rev. John Ross.

Being myself a Dissenter, and a thorough believer in the persuasive power of the Gospel—in its love and its truth—it is with pain I confess, amounting even to sadness, that I have seen communications one after another, and that too in the freedom-loving *Nonconformist*, which I consider to be little short of a libel on the true spirit of Christianity. Lest, however, my feelings—which I acknowledge have grown warm over the letter in your last issue—should lead me astray, I will give a few instances of what I regret, and then leave the matter to other and abler hands.

"Do I then advise the abandonment of pew-rents for weekly offerings at the house of God, as generally understood and practised? I emphatically answer, No! no!! no!!! To do so without first thoroughly training churches in conscientiously 'storing' would prove a terrible calamity with the present low range of the giving principle." How "terrible"? How much training do principles require? Again, "This success in the practice of weekly offering is due largely to full and distinct teaching on the subject, from the pulpit and the press. More of my own productions have been procured for this people than, excepting one, for any other four churches together, and more than for many whole counties."

Lastly the *Nonconformist* for 23rd September, 1863.

"The Saviour himself registered the widow's mite as her perpetual memorial. Large experience teaches that a perfectly secret offering is above the present order of general piety and liberality."

Surely, Sir, our friends of the Establishment have not said harder things about the Voluntary principle than are here inferred.

Believe me, Sir, faithfully yours,
G. D. C.

Foreign and Colonial.

THE CIVIL WAR IN AMERICA.

Advices have been received from New York to Jan. 12.

The Confederates have retreated from Western Virginia to the Shenandoah Valley. The condition of the roads rendering the transportation of artillery impracticable, appears to have interfered with the plans of their campaign. Mosby's guerillas have been repulsed in an attack upon the Federal camp near Harper's Ferry. The report has been revived that General Meade is to be superseded in the command of the Army of the Potomac by General Hancock, and not by General Sedgwick, as previously stated.

Letters from Chattanooga of the 30th of December state that General Grant had decided to remove his headquarters immediately to Nashville.

The siege of Charleston is progressing; twenty shells were thrown into the city on the 7th. A letter from Folly Island of the 7th states that only within the previous few days had it been found practicable to explode the Greek fire shells at the moment of their falling into Charleston. Before that time all exploded within two seconds after leaving the gun. The correspondent of the *New York Tribune* states that three new Confederate iron-clad vessels are visible in Charleston harbour in a forward state of construction. It is expected that these and other Confederate iron-clads will shortly make a sortie against the Federal squadron.

The *New York Times* asserts that the Republican members of the Indiana, Maine, and Illinois State Legislatures will nominate Lincoln for the Presidency.

A meeting of Democratic Conservative members of Congress has been held at Washington. Resolutions were passed that President Lincoln's amnesty proclamation was unwise, inexpedient, revolutionary, and unconstitutional, and should therefore be disapproved of.

The Federal Senate had concurred in the House resolution extending the payment of bounties to volunteers to the 1st of March.

Accounts from Newbern assert that disaffection towards the Confederate Government was increasing in North Carolina.

In the preliminary hearing of the Chesapeake case at Halifax, on the 9th, both Judge Stuart and Advocate-General Johnston expressed their opinion that the capture was piratical, and that the vessel should be returned to the owners.

New Orleans advices state that the Confederates had concentrated 20,000 men from Louisiana and Mississippi to Central Texas, to attack the position held by the Federals along the Texas coast. The expedition which lately left New Orleans is probably destined to meet these Confederate troops.

Extensive frauds in the Custom-house of New York, the Treasury Department of Washington, the Navy Yard, Brooklyn, and the public offices, continue to be discovered. Mr. Fernando Wood proposed to appoint a congressional committee to investigate the administration of affairs in all the departments, as well as the charges against General Butler at New Orleans. The proposition was rejected by a vote of 76 to 63. In order that the rejection should not appear in too scandalous a light, Mr. Fenton brought forward a resolution to inquire into frauds in the custom-house, which was adopted.

There are now in New Orleans schools for coloured children, with twenty-three teachers, and 1,190 scholars.

Bills are to be reported to the present Congress to bring Utah, Nebraska, and Colorado into the Union as States.

Senator Morrill has offered a resolution requesting Mr. Lincoln to notify the British Government of the desire of the Federal Government to terminate the Reciprocity Treaty. It was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

The Alabama was at Singapore on the 22nd of December.

A mass meeting of loyal citizens of New Orleans was called for the 8th January, the object being to consider the formation of a Free State Government. Nearly enough had been enrolled to enable the State to return to the Union under President Lincoln's Proclamation.

Governor Bramlette, of Kentucky, had issued orders that five rebel sympathisers shall be arrested for every loyal citizen carried off by rebel guerillas.

The Confederates have been for some time past concentrating near Jackson, Tennessee, under Generals Forrest, Roddy, and Chalmers. It is believed that this force now numbers from 20,000 to 25,000 men, and that they purpose making a dash upon Paducah, Kentucky, Columbus, or perhaps Memphis. General Grant was said to be fully informed as to the contemplated movement, and amply prepared to guard against disaster.

The official reports place the Union losses in killed and wounded at Chancellorsville at 28,000 men.

In the report of General Halleck on the Federal military operations of 1863 he states that it was estimated, from official returns in January last, that there were then absent from duty 8,987 officers and 280,073 non-commissioned officers and privates. Only a part of these were really disabled or sick. The remainder were mainly deserters, stragglers, malingerers, and shirks, or men who absented themselves in order to avoid duty. General Halleck says that straggling and desertion have greatly diminished, but cannot be prevented unless the punishment were made more prompt and certain. The machinery of the court-martial he pronounces too cumbrous for the trial of military offences in time of actual war.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

RAID OF NEGRO TROOPS IN NORTH CAROLINA.—A correspondent of one of the American papers gives the following particulars of a raid by a brigade of negro troops attached to General Butler's command:—"Between 2,000 and 3,000 slaves were released from bondage, with whom were taken along about 350 ox, horse, and mule teams, and from 50 to 75 saddle-horses, some of them valuable animals. The guerillas lost 13 killed and wounded, 10 dwelling-houses, with many thousand bushels of corn belonging to them, which they burned, besides two distilleries; four of their camps were destroyed, and one of their number was hanged; and 100 rifles, uniforms,

infantry equipments, &c., fell into our hands as spoils, with a loss on the part of the brigade of 123 killed and wounded and one man taken prisoner. Besides this, some rebel prisoners and four hostages were brought in. A comparatively small number of men were enlisted, not more than 100 in all—a large proportion of the able-bodied slaves having previously left their masters, the facilities for escaping being especially great in the region visited. In regard to its moral and political results, however, the importance of the raid cannot be over-estimated. The counties invaded by the coloured troops were completely panic-stricken. Scores of families, for no cause but a guilty conscience, fled into the swamps on their approach. Never was a region thrown into such commotion by a raid before." Regarding the efficiency and reliability of the troops when under fire, the writer says:—"Thoroughly obedient to their officers, during a march of 800 miles their conduct on every occasion was truly admirable. It will have been seen that they performed in the enemy's country all the duties of white soldiers—scouting, skirmishing, picket duty, guard duty, every service incident to the occupation of hostile towns, and, best of all, fighting. Colonel Draper testifies to their excellent behaviour under fire, and he declares that he could wish to lead no better men into battle; that he feels perfectly secure with them, and can depend upon them at a critical moment with as much confidence as upon white troops less accustomed to obey the commands of superiors."

THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.—The appearances indicate, should no American Cromwell or Napoleon appear within a few months, that, Mr. Chase having been otherwise provided for, the only real competitors will be Mr. Lincoln and General McClellan. Mr. Lincoln's inability to carry on the war with success is much more generally admitted than it was six months ago, but he has the great advantage of possession; and if incompetent I. is not equal to his place, no one knows whether incompetent II. might not prove a more hopeless failure. For this, among many other reasons, no Republican candidate will oppose Mr. Lincoln, and the struggle on which so many hopes and so many fears are concentrated will be sharply defined, with Mr. Lincoln as the champion and representative of the abolition of slavery and of State rights, and of the centralisation of the Government; and General McClellan as the representative of the Constitution of 1787, and as the champion of all the local rights and public liberties sanctified by that document. The prospects of Mr. Lincoln are by far the brighter of the two. He and his party mean war, and the abolition of slavery, at any price; and they have courage enough to say so. The opposite party mean peace, and the political ascendancy of the South, at any price; but they lack the courage to express their conviction in plain terms. This is the difference between them—a difference that as the day of election draws near will gain Mr. Lincoln many votes at the expense of General McClellan, in addition to the votes of that large and influential but timid class who dread any change lest it should be for the worse, and who would rather endure for another term the proved weakness of an existing President than incur the peril of a new one.—*Times Correspondent.*

FRANCE.

In the debate in the Corps Législatif on the 20th an amendment relative to the nomination of municipal councils by election, and the necessity of electing the mayor from the municipal council, was rejected by 182 against 62 votes.

On the 21st M. Picard attacked the law of public safety and the decrees of the 8th of December, 1851, which, he said, violated individual liberty and the principle of separating administrative from judicial powers, and created arbitrary political offences from which it was impossible to exculpate oneself. M. Picard cited instances in support of his views. M. Rouland justified the law in question, and showed that it was dictated not only by necessity and sound judgment, but also by justice and respect for every liberty. He concluded by declaring that the law would be maintained. As regards the transitory regulations expiring in February, 1865, M. Rouland said the Government hoped but could give no promise not to be obliged to ask for their prolongation. The amendment was rejected by 203 against 35 votes.

The discussion of the amendment concerning the liberty of the press was then commenced by M. Jules Simon, who made a long speech explaining and criticising the law of February, 1852.

On the 22nd M. Granier de Cassagnac, in reply to M. Jules Simon, said he considered the press as a dangerous power, and as an institution to which no strong government should grant liberty, but only a toleration regulated by the administration. M. Emile Ollivier stated that he and many of his friends were in favour of the responsibility of the chief of the State. (This declaration caused great sensation in the Chamber.) In continuation, M. Ollivier demonstrated that the press was not the cause of the fall of Governments, and was only fatal when not free. The amendment of the Left was then withdrawn. The amendment brought forward by M. Thiers and others on the same subject was then read, and was explained by M. Martel. M. Rouland, the President of the Council of State, said but a very few words in answer to M. Ollivier, but there seems reason to think that in these few words he went further in a liberal direction than some of his colleagues are prepared to follow him. He admitted that there

was something very "exceptional" in the Legislation of 1852 which still regulated the press, but he recommended the Chamber to trust entirely to the Emperor for the remedy, and they might be sure that in proper time he would not be found wanting. These words were construed as amounting almost to a promise. But the *Moniteur* burked the report (accurately given in the abridgment sent to the other journals), left out the word "exceptional," and made the whole sentence unintelligible. On the reading of the minutes next day, M. Picard noticed the error, and had its correction recorded. The amendment was rejected by a large majority.

On Monday the Opposition proposed an amendment requiring education to be gratuitous and obligatory, which was rejected by 225 to 16.

Paragraph 6, relating to distant expeditions, was next discussed. Three amendments were brought forward referring to Mexico, all demanding the termination of the expedition and the recall of the troops. M. Guérault spoke upon the amendment of the Left, demanding that the troops should be immediately recalled. M. de Beauverger replied.

The *Moniteur* publishes documents stating the eagerness of the Mexican people to welcome the French occupation troops, and announcing that the greater part of Mexico will shortly have declared for the Empire.

The late elections in the Vosges and Bas Rhin turn out to have been more disastrous for the Government than has hitherto been supposed. Though in the latter case the majority of the Opposition candidate was only 468, he was opposed to M. de Bulaoh, one of the Emperor's chamberlains; and the Emperor, in the same ill-advised spirit which prompted him to order M. Rouher to quote his speech to Cardinal Bonnechose while the debate on the address was going on, wrote a letter, beginning, "My dear Bulaoh," expressing a hope that the electors of the Bas Rhin would return him. This letter was extensively used by Baron de Bulaoh in his canvass. In the Vosges the majority for M. Buffet, the Opposition candidate, which was represented as only 3,000, turns out to be nearly 5,000. The exact figures are 18,307 against 13,479.

Count de Flahault, recently French Ambassador in London, has been selected by the Emperor for the post, vacated by Admiral Hamelin's death, of Grand Chancellor of the Legion of Honour. The count, an old soldier of the empire, is now an old man. His commission as general of division dates as far back as 1813.

The French Budget for 1865, just made public, fixes the expenditure for that year at the sum of 71,890,000*l.*, being 840,000*l.* in excess of the sum required for the present year. The estimated income amounts to 71,990,000*l.*, leaving a surplus over expenditure of 100,000*l.* This budget does not promise reduction of armaments or any other kind of economy.

THE SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN QUESTION.

A Berlin telegram says:—"The Danish Government has requested a delay to enable it to assemble the Rigsaad before replying definitively to the summons of Austria and Prussia. By the aid of the Rigsaad the Danish Government will withdraw the November Constitution and afterwards fulfil its engagements of 1851-52 towards Germany. In case of acceptance of this proposition of Denmark it is probable that the Austro-Prussian troops will not pass the Eider. A month would be necessary to enable the Rigsaad to assemble."

On Monday intelligence was received by our Government to the effect that Austria and Prussia had declared they would not consent to suspend or delay the entry of their troops into Schleswig as requested by the Danish Cabinet.

On Monday morning the Prussian vanguard marched into Kiel. They removed the German flag, and placed the Prussian colours on the guard-house. They demanded the withdrawal of Duke Frederick's citizen guard, threatening to employ force in case of non-compliance. The guard then dispersed by desire of the Duke. Two Prussian battalions and one battery arrived in the afternoon. They were received without any kind of demonstration.

The Saxon troops along the Eider had been previously removed to the north-west of Holstein. The Austrian and Prussian troops would be sent north at the rate of 6,000 a-day. The convention between Austria and Prussia binds the two Powers to have their respective troops upon the frontier by the 6th of February, but as some days must elapse from that date before the attempt to cross the frontier can be made, an interval of two or three weeks yet remains for negotiation. The Austrian and Prussian brigades of the first reserve of the Federal army in Holstein, under the command of General Hake, have been transferred by their respective Governments to the Austro-Prussian army of occupation for Schleswig.

The Federal Commissioners have issued a proclamation, dated the 21st inst., which says:—

Troops under the command of Field-Marshal von Wrangel have crossed the frontier of the Duchies.

In view of the protest made by several Governments to the Federal Diet, we have commissioned General Hake to declare to Field-Marshal von Wrangel that we had expected the latter to forward him official notification of this movement. We cannot recognise the troops as belonging to the Federal reserve, but must submit to facts which are unavoidable. We have received infor-

mation from the President of the Federal Diet that the entry of Austrian and Prussian troops would not prejudice or interfere with future orders respecting the occupation in form of execution and the administration of Holstein and Lauenburg, and that these troops would only pass through the Duchy of Holstein.

We therefore call upon the authorities and inhabitants of the Duchies to afford to the Austrian and Prussian troops the assistance which is requested of them, and to receive these troops in a friendly spirit.

The following is a summary of the Prussian despatch addressed to the minor German States:—

The Prussian Government does not offer any opposition to the Federal Government, but has only in view its position with regard to the other Powers who signed the Protocol of London. A possible solution of the Schleswig-Holstein question would be a mere personal union between Denmark and the Duchies, as is the case between Sweden and Norway.

In the Federal Diet, on the 22nd, Austria and Prussia announced the march of their troops through Holstein towards Schleswig. The Federal Diet was unanimously of opinion that the position of the Federal Commissioners in Holstein, as well as General Hake's command of the Saxon and Hanoverian troops, were in no way affected thereby. The necessary instructions to that effect had been given by the Diet to the Commissioners and to General Hake.

A thaw had set in in Denmark, which would greatly help the Danes in defending Schleswig, especially the Dannewerk.

The report that Duke Carl of Glucksburg, the elder brother of King Christian, had refused the oath of allegiance, "is a malicious libel," says the *Morning Post*. The duke is on the best terms with his brother. A telegram from Hamburg reiterates the statement of his refusal of the oath, and professes to give a circumstantial account of the affair.

It is asserted that the Cabinet of St. Petersburg has declared to several German Courts that, should the London Protocol be suspended, Russia would immediately renew her claims to the Gottorp portion of Holstein.

Austria and Bavaria, according to a report from Frankfurt, are negotiating on the affairs of Schleswig-Holstein. Bavaria was ready, provided the great Powers would hand over Holstein to Duke Frederick of Augustenburg, to consent to a European conference with regard to Schleswig, taking as a basis the London Protocol of 1852.

In the sitting of the Danish Landsting on the 22nd, the President of the Council made the following declaration:—

The Conventions of 1851 and 1852 contain the rights as well as the engagements of Denmark, among which is the point that there does not exist any State of Schleswig-Holstein. What do we struggle for? To prevent an invasion of Schleswig by foreign troops, and to expel them should they, nevertheless, enter it. The fortune of war will decide what will happen afterwards. It would be vain to trace a programme before the war is over, but we are determined not to allow a single German soldier to cross the Eider.

The Wurttemberg Chamber of Deputies have unanimously demanded that the army of the State should at once be placed on a war footing, and that "the loyal German States should be urgently requested by the Confederation to adopt the same measure," and further "to request that the territories of those States, and more especially their railways, should not be made use of for the transport of troops which have not been called out by the Diet." The Dresden Chamber ask the Saxon Government to demand the admission of a representative of the Duke of Augustenburg to the Diet, and, in common with other loyal States of the Confederacy, to cause an immediate increase of the Federal troops in Holstein; finally, that Schleswig should be occupied by loyal Federal troops.

The threatened occupation of Schleswig has given a great impulse to the movement in favour of Denmark throughout Sweden and Norway. Addresses have been voted, committees are being formed for collecting subscriptions, volunteers are enlisted, and military armaments are continued with increased activity in both countries.

PRUSSIA.

In the Chamber of Deputies on Friday, Herr von Bismark, in reply to a question, said:—

It is not true that the minor German States are disposed to rely on Prussia. The last fifteen years prove, on the contrary, that they seek support in Austria, which course has already caused great embarrassments to Prussia. Our natural mission is to live in harmony with the Scandinavian people. A Prussian Minister, who wished to obtain the confidence of the majority of the Chamber of Deputies, would be obliged to act contrary to the Constitution, against the feelings of the Prussian people, and against historical tradition. The Chamber desires to hold the position of a kind of diplomatic Aulic Court with military powers. It does not understand the Prussian people.

Count Schwerin said he hoped the King would submit to the decision of the Federal Diet on the question of succession. The Ministry were afraid of Democracy and the foreign Powers.

Herr von Bismark replied that the Government hoped to conquer Democracy, and that it was only a rule of common prudence to look abroad with apprehension. He maintained, as hitherto, that the policy of Prussia was to keep free from any engagement.

Subsequently the Chamber rejected the loan proposed by the Government by 275 against 51 votes. A portion of the Catholic members, President Grabow, and Count Schwerin, voted with the majority.

The decided resolution proposed by Herren Schulze-Delitsch and Von Carlowitz, and amended

by Herr Grote, was then proposed. It was as follows:—

1. Considering that Prussia, in common with Austria, has made the declaration at the Federal Diet that two Powers will resist the resolution passed by the latter on the 14th of January, and take the affairs of Schleswig-Holstein into their own hands, and will carry out the occupation of Schleswig in their quality as great Powers;

2. Considering that by this declaration Prussia separates herself from Germany, and commits an abuse of her position as a great Power;

3. Considering that the course of the Austro-Prussian policy can have no other result than that of surrendering the Duchies a second time to Denmark;

4. Considering that the threatened execution by force of the purpose of Prussia and Austria challenges the well-justified resistance of the other German States, and may thus produce civil war in Germany,—

The Chamber of Deputies declares that it will resist this policy by all legal means in its power.

This resolution was carried by a very large majority.

On Friday's sitting the Upper House rejected the Budget as voted by the Deputies, and adopted it as originally proposed by the Government, by 58 to 17 votes. The committee of the Lower House, ordered to report on the decision, proposed that the vote of the Upper House should be declared null and void. This proposition was adopted by the House. Count Eulenburg then read a Royal message, stating that the Diet would be closed. Subsequently a message from the Government was read, in which the acts of opposition of the Chamber to the policy of the King's Ministers were recounted, and the conclusion stated:—

Renouncing, therefore, for the present the hope of bringing about an understanding with the Chamber, the Government considers it its duty to act for the maintenance of the State, and relies herein upon the growing support of the country.

A letter from Berlin of the 21st says—

The Crown Prince is going north with the Prussian army, but only, it is understood, as a spectator. The Princess Victoria is unwell—not seriously, but sufficiently to cause the postponement of a reception she was to have held to-night. The sudden change of weather has acted unfavourably upon the health of many. This is the third day of complete thaw; the snow is all but gone, the ice is rapidly melting, and the streets are in many parts of the city almost impassable, owing to the broad gutters or open drains being choked deep by ice, which prevents the water running.

AUSTRIA.

Count Rechberg on Saturday gave explanation as to the conduct of the Government on the Schleswig question. He said that Austria could not act differently in this question than she had done. The view taken by the majority of the Federal Diet could not be accepted by Austria, because it was against international right, and its adoption would be dangerous. Count Rechberg continued:—

We must carefully distinguish between the London Protocol and the question of the succession in the Duchies. By the London Protocol the great Powers acknowledged the integrity of the Danish monarchy without prejudice to the question of succession. The Government of the Emperor of Austria never intended to pass over clear legitimate rights, although, on the other hand, the line of Augustenburg in no way appears to possess claims on Schleswig and Gottorp. Nothing would therefore remain but a separation of the Duchies. But it is to be considered that Denmark and Russia would never surrender their right of succession. The stipulations of the Danish law of succession will always be maintained as preliminary conditions of the London Treaty of 1852. Even the declarations of France, England, Russia, and Sweden show that Austria and Prussia are bound by this treaty. The maintenance of peace in Europe makes it necessary for Austria to keep aloof from the agitation now prevailing in Germany, and to only interfere in the Schleswig-Holstein question in her quality as a great Power. Austria would not have interfered at all in this question had not the Federal Diet taken the question within its competency. To yield this question entirely to the middle and minor States would be equivalent to a surrender of the position of Austria as a great Power.

Count Rechberg further said it was impossible to communicate at present more details relative to the state of affairs without impeding diplomatic action and endangering the interests of the empire. In conclusion, the Minister expressed a hope that a peaceful solution of the question might be possible. For this there were several ways open, among which was the union of the Duchies with Denmark only by the personal tie of the same ruler, both having the same dynasty.

Several members afterwards spoke for and against the credit demanded by the Government, and the debate was then adjourned.

The proposition of a section of the Finance Committee to grant five millions to cover the Austrian proportion of the expenses of Federal execution, instead of ten, as asked by the Government, was passed by a large majority.

The resolution proposed by several influential members against the policy of the Government in the Schleswig-Holstein matter, and declining responsibility for the consequences, was agreed to, in spite of the energetic opposition of almost all the Ministers, by 18 to 17 votes.

ITALY.

A circular has been addressed by the Minister of the Interior to the Prefects of the Italian provinces. Having reminded them of the means adopted by the party of action in 1862 to mislead the people as to the intentions of the Government, and to create agitation, which led to the affair of Aspromonte, the Minister says:—

There is ground for apprehension that the same

artifices are again being resorted to. The Ministry is, however, determined to unmask all these intrigues. Possessing the confidence of the King and the Parliament, the Ministry will permit nobody to encroach upon its authority, and is resolved to anticipate and frustrate all such attempts.

In conclusion, the Minister requests the Prefects to exercise a vigilant supervision.

POLAND.

A detachment of insurgent cavalry which had passed from Galicia into the kingdom of Poland, under the command of Komorowski, has been defeated by the Russian troops. Komorowski himself was either killed or wounded. Another insurgent detachment has been defeated near Kramobrod. 1,500 insurgents under Bosak are said to have been victorious in an engagement with the Russians at Sienna, in the neighbourhood of Zawichost, in the government of Radom. A fresh cavalry detachment of 300 insurgents has shown itself in the vicinity of the frontier railway-station at Losnowice. On the 16th inst. the insurgents, under Rembailo, are said to have defeated three companies of Russian infantry at Dalezryn, near Kielce, in consequence of which all the Russian garrisons in the Cracow district have been sent out to operate against them. Meanwhile, Rembailo is said to have united his force with Wagner's cavalry corps.

On the 21st, a fresh convoy of 500 persons, sentenced to transportation to Siberia, left Warsaw. Four insurgents, including a German named Lüdke, were hanged at Wlorałek on the 4th inst. General Berg has, it is said, ordered that every insurgent captured shall be shot.

RUSSIA.

The *Official Journal* of St. Petersburg publishes an Imperial ukase for the organisation of the provincial and district representations of Russia, with the exception of the Western and Baltic provinces, Archangel, Astracan, and Bessarabia.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

CAPTURE OF SOUCHOW.—A telegram from Shanghai of Dec. 8, in advance of the mail, announces that Major Gordon had captured this important city on the Yang-tee-Kiang from the Taiping. The Major commands the disciplined Chinese in the Imperial service.

M. MAZZINI AND THE FRENCH PLOT.—It appears from inquiries made by the Swiss authorities that M. Mazzini left Lugano in the beginning of October last, and that the men who have been arrested on a charge of conspiracy against the life of the Emperor Napoleon did not arrive at that place till the month of November.

CAPITAL PUNISHMENT IN PORTUGAL.—The Minister of Justice of Portugal laid before the Chamber of Deputies, in the sitting of the 11th, a bill decreeing the abolition of the punishment of death, which punishment the Government propose to maintain only for military crimes, in the event of war with a foreign Power.

REPORTED MURDER OF DR. LIVINGSTONE.—The Cape mail, which arrived on Saturday, has brought the following:—"Messrs. Rowley and Miller had returned from the Zambesi. Dr. Livingstone had received the news of his recall, and had admitted his expedition to be a failure. A rumour had reached the colony of his having been murdered near Lake Nyassa."

COTTON IN EGYPT.—The cotton crop in many parts has greatly disappointed the expectations which had been formed. It has in places only rendered one-fifth of the proper yield, and already the fellahs have begun to tear up the plants.—*Letter from Alexandria.*

A GOOD EXAMPLE.—The South Australian papers bring the satisfactory intelligence that the Legislative Assembly of that colony has authorised the payment to the Imperial Government of 6,800*l.* a-year for the use of British troops in the settlement. The amount is not large in itself, but it is highly important as establishing a sound principle.

NEGRO STUDENTS AT ROME.—On Monday last there was the annual "Accademia Poliglotta" of the students of the Propaganda, and I allude to it only to observe that the youths who carried off the palm were two negroes, rejoicing in the names of William Samba and John Provost. Their delivery and action were wonderful, and called forth thunders of applause even in a church.—*Letter from Rome.*

PRESIDENT LINCOLN.—Our Washington correspondent says that Mr. Lincoln is a mere shadow of what he was a year ago. The cares of office are evidently wearing upon him with fearful effect. He is a man who devotes his whole attention, night and day, to his official duties, allowing himself no relaxation. His friends are alarmed for his continued ill-health, and insist upon his allowing himself more leisure for diversion from the distracting thoughts that press upon his brain.—*St. Louis Democrat.*

A RAILWAY ENGINE CHARGING A SNOW-BANK.—The Mississippi line being "snowed up," a locomotive, with a snow-plough, was sent forward to clear the track. The engine, meeting with a huge bank, was obliged to go back to attain all the velocity possible, in order to force a passage. The locomotive was dashed against the bank at a rate of forty or fifty miles per hour. It went through, but the engine was forced out of a window, and buried about eight feet deep in the snow. He died from the effects of this smothering.

GENERAL GRANT.—Major-General Ulysses S. Grant, the commander of the military division of the Mississippi, which embraces within its limits the departments of the Ohio, of the Cumberland, and of the

Tennessee, with their corresponding armies, and includes all the country bounded by the Mississippi river on the west, the States of Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina on the east, the lakes on the north, and all that these armies may conquer on the south, was born at Point Pleasant, Clermont county, Ohio, on the 27th of April, 1822. He is, therefore, in his 42nd year. His ancestors were Scotch, which doubtless accounts for his pertinacity of character. His early youth was spent at his native place, and he obtained his education at a district school near Georgetown, Brown county, Ohio. He was not considered a remarkably bright youth, and was nicknamed by his mother "Useless" Grant, instead of Ulysses. But there are several events of his early life which give evidence of his smartness.—*New York Herald.*

CORONATION OF THE QUEEN OF MADAGASCAR.—Mr. Stagg, one of the missionaries, has just sent home an account, published in the *Patriot*, of this ceremonial, which took place on Sunday, August 30th. He and two other missionaries thought it right to show respect to the reigning Sovereign (the widow of Radama) by being present. About 40,000 people were assembled. "The French priests, &c., were (he says) seated next to us. About half-past nine the procession of the Queen made its appearance. She was well received. As she passed by us on the way to her seat, we rose and bowed. She ascended the platform and took her seat amidst the acclamations of her people. Immediately after, the crown was placed on her head, and she stood up before the people as Queen of Madagascar. After the soldiers had presented arms, and the bands had played the National Anthem, the Queen arose and spoke to her people. She thanked them for having thus assembled together, and hoped that they and their families were well. She wished them health and prosperity, and hoped they would respect the laws of the country, live at peace with each other, do good, and help to sustain the new laws. On her part, she promised to do her best for the people; she would respect the laws, and follow in the steps of her great ancestors, &c." There were then presentations of money, long speeches, &c., from the heads of various districts. After a time the missionaries went forward, and presented "hasana," but made no speech. The French party followed. At length (after many hours) the procession was re-formed and returned to the palace. Mr. Stagg thinks "there is every probability of the Queen being firmly established on her throne."

THE LIVINGSTONE EXPEDITION.

A letter from Capetown, dated Dec. 21, states that great interest had been excited in the colony by the report of the death of Dr. Livingstone, and mentions the circumstances which had given rise to it:—

On Tuesday last, her Majesty's ship *Ariel* arrived in Simon's Bay, and the utmost anxiety prevailed as to the news from the Zambesi. The feelings of the inhabitants may be conceived when the intelligence spread like wildfire through their ranks, that the hapless doctor, and those with him, had been brutally massacred by the natives on Lake Nyassa. That there was foundation for the intelligence was soon apparent. The doctor, it appeared, after the receipt of the news of his recall, had started for Lake Nyassa, taking with him five Makololos, but no Europeans. Unfortunately, after gaining the Upper Shire, the boat—their only means of conveyance—was lost over one of the cataracts with which the river abounds, and they were compelled to continue their journey on foot. It was on the 14th of July that the rev. doctor commenced his unhappy journey: and from the time of the occurrence mentioned above, until the 5th of November, nothing more was heard of him. On that day, the Governor of Quillimane received a letter from the Governor of Senna, stating that the doctor and his companions had met their death at the hands of the natives on Lake Nyassa. Although the account of the horrible tragedy bears all the impression of authenticity, I gladly seize upon a rumour which is current, to the effect that the worthy doctor, although badly wounded, is not yet dead. From the following extracts from a letter written by him to his friend the Astronomer-Royal of the Cape, and dated the 4th of July, you will see in what spirit he received the news of his recall:—

"Our recall did not take me any way by surprise, for the Portuguese slave-hunters of Tette and Quillimane had so completely aided a drought of one season, that the population of this Shire Valley, among whom we had good prospects of success, is almost entirely destroyed. They finished the people and our work together; and had I believed that the scourge had been half as sweeping as I now find it to be, I should not have come up. I am, of course, sorry to see the failure of my hopes, though through no fault of my own, and I deeply regret ever giving the slightest credence to the protestations of desire on the part of Portuguese statesmen for the civilisation of Africa; for, with half the labour and expense on the Rovuma, we should have left an enduring mark on the East Coast of Africa; while here our footsteps have been dogged, and native emissaries employed to neutralise all our efforts. The most bitter point of all is to see this line of coast, from Cape Delgado to Delagoa Bay, left to those who were the first to begin the slave-trade and are determined to be the last to abandon it. Now that the Church has begun a mission, it cannot be abandoned unless it is clear that Europeans cannot live; and as Portuguese, with all their terrible debaucheries, survive, surely men with regular lives will live and become blessings. The anxiety felt about the means of the society might be diminished by joining one of the great Church societies. If they retire from other than lack of health, it will be, I suppose, the first mission that ever turned tail; but I have no fears. We cannot bring the Pioneer down till the flood of December; and it being clearly the intention of our Government that she should not be abandoned, we intend to improve the intermediate time by examining the north end of the lake. The sight of the devastation around gave me a month of dysentery, and took away all energy as to carrying

the Lady Nyassa across. All was ready, part of the road made, and a waggon-load on to start; but feeling that unless some restriction on Portuguese forays on our foot-steps could be put on, and some of the 'dog-in-the-manger' policy of the rivers got over, it was useless for me to risk private property to such an amount in the enterprise. If we could have stopped the enormous slave-trade of Lake Nyassa, I would gladly have spent all the money I ever received."

GENERAL LEE'S ESTATE IN VIRGINIA.

The following is an extract from a letter sent by Frederick Douglass to a friend in Leeds, dated Rochester, U.S., Dec. 29, 1863:—

I never was listened to with such attention as now. My leading idea now before the people is, "No war but an abolition war; no peace but an abolition peace." The Government and people still need line upon line and precept upon precept. At Washington, a few evenings ago, where I went to deliver two lectures in aid of the contrabands or freedmen, and where I raised more than 100 dols. for them, the house was densely packed by white and coloured people, and the papers say that 2,000 went away unable to gain admission. Now, think of me in Washington, where, three years ago, I should have been murdered in ten minutes had I dared to open my mouth for my enslaved people. While in Washington I was taken by Mr. James Wormley over to the Virginia side, to visit the contraband villages on the estate of the rebel General Lee, known as Arlington Heights. All around were striking proofs of retribution. Here we see the proud mansion of the rebel slaveholder occupied by common soldiers and by his former slaves; his fences in ruins; his noble ancestral trees, the pride of generations, cut down; his once beautiful winding lane, over which he rolled in pride and splendour, all cut up by the wheels of army waggons; his formerly richly furnished parlours are now occupied by soldiers, and the whole premises bear marks of desolation. I should have been deeply sad over the ruin but for the thought that this was the reward of iniquity—a righteous retribution—a wise and necessary chastisement of crimes unrepented, perpetrated against the weak, the ignorant, and the defenceless. I went to the gentlemen's "Smoke House"; there I saw dear little children, some of them nearly white, and possibly more nearly related to the General than he would be willing to own. They were too small to be taken South in his flight, and had been left on the place with a few old slaves, who were too old to be taken, and not wanted. The little children in the "Smoke House" were being taught to read. The "Smoke House" had become the school-house, and the property of the pupils. Taking a book in my hand, I said to one little fellow, "Can you spell where your book is opened?" "Yes, sir," he answered. I pronounced "abandon," which was the first word in the column. He spelt it off with a look of triumph and pride that he could do it with such ease. Had the past participle been added, the word might be the dying word of the slave system at Arlington Heights. I tried to make a few encouraging remarks to these dear little children and their teachers, and left for the "freedmen's village," about a mile from the mansion of General Lee, situated on the south part of his plantation. This place is the temporary home for slave women, children, and old slaves, who were abandoned and deserted by their masters on the approach of the loyal army. Others, too, are here who have made good their escape, after having endured untold hardships and perils in their efforts to reach our lines. More than a thousand here have thus gained their freedom and are beginning life with nothing but the few rags upon their persons with which they made their escape. Of course they are in great destitution; much has been done for them, but they need much more. Regular religious exercises are held among them every Sunday, and now they have a day-school established, from which much good may be expected. I wish you could see this school. When I was there there were a hundred children in it, the descendants of slaves, so held for many generations, going back more than 200 years. The sight of these poor little children brought tears of joy, sadness, hope, and fear, and I know not what else. Three years ago to have taught these children in Virginia would have subjected the teacher to a heavy fine and to imprisonment. Now teachers and pupils are alike safe. I thought and felt much as I looked upon and listened to those black children. I thought of the generations of the race which had preceded them, sent from time to eternity in the dark, and not even allowed to learn to read the name of Heaven; I thought how much further these children might have been advanced had their ancestors enjoyed the privileges now opening (Heaven grant that they be not shut) before them. The teachers (Mr. and Mrs. Simmons) kindly asked me to address the children. I complied, and sang two or three hymns with them. I enjoyed the interview more than I can express, and am soon to visit them again, also those at Alexandria.

UNIVERSITY OF LONDON.

MATRICULATION EXAMINATION, — JANUARY, 1864.

The following is a list of candidates who passed the late examination for matriculation:—

FIRST DIVISION.—Fletcher Beach, Queen's College, Birmingham; Alfred Jugg Bedells, Lancashire Independent College; Alfred William Benn, private study; George Gilbert Birkett, private tuition; John Brook, Wilton Grammar School; James Thomas Brown, City of London School; Samuel Bull, Llandaff House; Francis James Carey, City of London School; Charles Henry Carter, private tuition; John Augustus Tatam Cartwright, Lincoln Grammar School; Edward Colson, Felstead Grammar School; William Richard Cortis, King's College School; William Theophilus Davison, Huddersfield College; Charles Henry Joubert de la Ferté, King's College School; Edwin Bourdieu England, E. F. H. Sykes, Woodford; William Fiddian, Huddersfield College; Oliver Le Neve Foster, private tuition; James Giddens, Barton School, Wisbech; William Meigh Goodman, private tuition; Robert Harris, University College; John Anderson Hartley, Woodhouse Grove School; Edward Heath, King's College; Charles Robert Hodgson, City of London School; Albany Charles Hoggins, North London Collegiate School; Henry Jones, Normal College, Borough-road;

Ughtred James Kay-Shuttleworth, Harrow and private tuition; John Homer Killick, private study; Carlton John Lambert, City of London School; Robert Moses Lewis, Wesleyan Collegiate Institution, Taunton; Samuel McAlister, Santry School, Dublin; Henry Jacob Mannings, Marlborough College; Howard Martin, Rev. J. Fletcher, Christchurch; William Lockwood Martin, private study; George Buck Meachen, Mr. Buck's, Ipswich; James Mortimer, Welsh Collegiate Institution, Llandoverly; John Lancaster Gough Mowat, Wesleyan Collegiate Institution, Taunton; Robert Anderson Mowat, private study; Frederick Pollard, Independent College, Taunton; John Gonner Robinson Powell, private study; John James Ridge, City of London School; Christopher Ridley, St. Mark's College, Chelsea; Robert Robson, Eaglescliffe School; Thomas Riddle, private study; Richard Thomas Smith, Wesley College, Sheffield; Edmond West Symes, University College; John Taylor, King's College School; John Walsley, Normal College, Cheltenham; David Watson, Clewer House School; Frank Watson, Godolphin School; John Whitecher, City of London School; John Murch Winger, King's Lynn Grammar School; John Wilkins, self-tuition; John Wooder, private study; William Ewatt Wright, Uppingham Grammar School; Thomas Pilkington Young, Owens College.

SECOND DIVISION.—Samuel Barber, Rev. T. Barber; William Barlow, private study; Robert Henry Belcher, private tuition; Edwin Berry, private study; Robert Boyd, private study; William John Brookes, private study; Charles Turing Brookhouse, Greenwich Collegiate School; John Samuel Cobb, private study; William John Davison, Royal School, Armagh; Richard St. Mark Dawes, private tuition; Henry Langstaff Forster, Windermere College; James Schreiber Francis, Grammar-school, Cranbrook; Tom Dunkin Francis, private tuition; Samuel Glew, private study; John Gosse, Milton Abbas School; William Henry Groves, Wesleyan College, Taunton; Edmund Legh Harris, King's College; George Moses Hewitt, private study; John Henry Humphreys, Grammar-school; Alexander Rufus Kirton, Wesley College, Sheffield; Henry Josiah Lewis, Congregational School, Lewisham; George Shirley Mullinger, private study; John Slater Nye, Woodville House, Bradford; William Pearson, Wharfedale College; Frederick Antony Potter, Royal School of Mines; William Price, private study; John George Randall, Royal Medical College, Epsom; Charles Read, private tuition; Richard Rendle, King's College; John Francis Reynolds, private tuition; Ernest Stewart Roberts, Easton Grammar-school; Thomas Henry Rowe, private study; Richard Samuel, private study; Henry William Saunders, Mr. Pinche's, St. Martin's-lane; William Joseph Scott, Rev. W. Watson's, Cotterstock; George Severs, private tuition; Ollive Sims Shaw, private study; Middleton Smith, Wesley College, Sheffield; Jacob Stephenson, Clitheroe House, Keswick; William Fowler Stephenson, private study; William Jebson Stothard, private tuition; John Trist, Lancashire Independent College; Arthur Trollop, private tuition; George Walker, private study; James Brignall Walton, Lancashire Independent College; George William Webb, private study; Henry Martin Winterbotham, Portland Grammar-school; Sidney Woolf, University College School; John Wright, self-tuition; John Sanderson Wyman, Royal Medical College, Epsom.

THIRD DIVISION.—William Henry Miles Booty, Felstead Grammar-school; Arthur Clegg Bowdler, private study; William Canney, private tuition; Albert Essery, Bristol Grammar-school; William Balme Hepworth, Woodville House, Bradford; Frederick William Jackson, Rev. E. Corbould, Newbury; William King, King's College School; James Kirton, Wesley College, Sheffield; Peter Thomas Scott, Brentwood Grammar-school; Charles Moncrieffe Simon, University College; George Newby Watson, Merchant Taylors' School.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

Her Majesty, accompanied by their Royal Highnesses Princess Louise and Princess Beatrice, arrived at Windsor at a quarter past one o'clock on Saturday from Osborne. Her Majesty was met by the Prince of Wales at the Great Western station. The platform on each side of the Queen's waiting-room was thronged with spectators, among whom were a number of ladies. The Royal party drove off amid the respectful though silent salutations of the bystanders—which were graciously acknowledged by the Queen and Prince—through the town to Frogmore House, where they arrived at twenty minutes past one p.m. Her Majesty remained with the Princess of Wales during the afternoon, and returned to the Castle in the evening.

On Sunday morning the Queen and Princess Louise attended Divine service in the private chapel. The Hon. and Very Rev. the Dean of Windsor officiated. Her Majesty passed the afternoon at Frogmore House.

The Queen, Princess Louise, and Princess Beatrice arrived at Osborne from Windsor Castle soon after five o'clock on Monday afternoon.

The Princess of Wales is now able to move from one room to another.

A Cabinet Council was held on Saturday at the Foreign Office. The Ministers present were—Lord Palmerston, the Lord Chancellor, Earl Granville, the Duke of Argyll, Sir George Grey, Earl Russell, Earl De Grey, Sir Charles Wood, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the Duke of Somerset, the Right Hon. T. Milner Gibson, the Right Hon. Edward Cardwell, Lord Stanley of Alderley, and the Right Hon. C. P. Villiers. The Duke of Newcastle was prevented by indisposition from attending the Cabinet Council. His Grace was the only member of the Cabinet absent on the occasion.

At a public meeting held in Aberdeen on Thursday, it was resolved to erect a statue of her Majesty in that city.

Viscount Palmerston and five friends shot at Broadlands, on the 18th, 2 woodcocks, 115 pheasants, 19 hares, and 13 rabbits—149 head; and on the 19th,

1 woodcock, 112 pheasants, 49 hares, and 29 rabbits—191 head. The noble Premier was out both days, shot extremely well, and killed his full share of the bag.

It will be remembered that the Duke of Cambridge, in his recent minute on the Crawley Court-martial, spoke in very harsh terms of the evidence of Surgeon Turnbull. An official inquiry into the case has since taken place, which resulted in the exoneration of Mr. Turnbull. The Horse-Guards afterwards ordered a second inquiry, which has just had the same result.

The personality of the late Archbishop of Dublin has been sworn under 40,000l. His Grace devised his property amongst his four children.

Law, &c.

BURIAL-GROUNDS AND STREET IMPROVEMENTS.—In Vice-Chancellor Sir W. Page Wood's Court, the case of the Bishop of Durham v. the Mayor, Aldermen, Burgesses, and Vicar of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, was a suit instituted by the bishop, as patron of the vicarage, for the purpose of restraining the defendants from laying or permitting to be laid a portion of the churchyard of the parish of St. John into a street about to be altered in the said parish. The bill alleged that the defendants, the mayor, aldermen, and burgesses of the borough, without any faculty obtained for that purpose, and without the authority of any act of Parliament, proposed to alter and enlarge a street within the borough by laying into the street a small piece, about forty-six yards square, of the churchyard of the parish of St. John, in the said borough. The bill also alleged that the defendant, Mr. Moody, the vicar, had contracted to sell the piece of land in question to the corporation. The bill prayed an injunction to restrain the defendants from the proposed measure. The Vice-Chancellor made a decree for a perpetual injunction, according to the prayer of the bill, and ordered a deed purporting to be a conveyance by the vicar to the corporation of the one small piece of land in question to be cancelled.

THE LEIGH SUNDAY CASE.—On Thursday the appeal in the Leigh Sunday haymaking case came on for a hearing before the Court of Queen's Bench, when all the judges indulged themselves in making fun of the Sunday Act, showing how badly the law was defined, and how unjust in effect it was. The form of the appeal was an application by the farmer Cleworth for a *certiorari* to bring up the conviction, with a view to quash it, as made without jurisdiction. The rule had been obtained, and now Mr. Mellish appeared to show cause on behalf of the Leigh magistrates against the rule being made absolute. The words of Charles II.'s Act were, "That no tradesman, artificer, workman, or labourer, or other person whatsoever, shall do any worldly labour, business, or work of their ordinary calling upon the Lord's day, works of necessity and charity alone excepted." The question discussed was whether the general words, "no other person whatsoever," really meant what they said, or whether they were to be interpreted to mean, "no other person of the same sort." If the larger interpretation were to be taken, it would include working a ship at sea except in cases of storm and tempest, which would come within the exemption. The gentlemen farmers of Charles II. never thought of bringing themselves within the operation of the act, and it must be interpreted, therefore, clearly in the narrow, not in the wide sense, as an act inflicting penalties on the labourer employed, but not on the responsible employer. Mr. Justice Crompton concurred, perhaps the more willingly because this interpretation stamps the act as both foolish and unjust; with that the bench had nothing to do. He remarked that a barber's apprentices would be liable under it for shaving a customer on a Sunday, but not the barber who bids him shave. Mr. Mellish thought shaving a work of "necessity," but was quickly put down by the Lord Chief Justice, who said that, "looking at the aspect of many gentlemen, it did not appear to be so." Each judge having had its separate fling at the act, the rule for the *certiorari* was made absolute, and Mr. Cleworth's case—at least for that stage of the business—gained.

THE BURNING OF KAGOSIMA.—On Tuesday evening a meeting was held at the Athenæum, Bristol, for the purpose of expressing the disapproval of the recent bombardment of Kagosima by the English fleet, at which there was a tolerably numerous audience. The chair was taken by Mr. H. O. Wills, and the speakers were Mr. R. Charleton, Mr. Woodforde Flookas (barrister), the Rev. Uriah Thomas, Mr. Wethered, and the Rev. B. Nicholson, all of whom denounced the destruction of the city of Kagosima, by Admiral Kuper, as a most unjustifiable act. An address to Lord Palmerston was unanimously adopted.

THE DISTRESS OF LANCASHIRE.—The last weekly report shows that besides a large increase of dependents upon the funds of the local relief committees, there has been an increase of 5,313 paupers in the cotton-manufacturing districts. The pauper and other recipients of relief now together number probably more than 200,000, and during the ensuing month a considerable addition will, it is expected, be made to that number. Since the distress began, the local relief committees have, it is estimated, expended altogether 1,281,545l. The amount now in the hands of the bankers is 203,173l., in addition to which there are balances of 87,730l. of the Cotton Districts' Relief Fund; and 40,881l. of the Liverpool fund.

Literature.

DR. SMITH'S DICTIONARY OF THE BIBLE.*

We hail the completion of this last of Dr. Smith's great Dictionaries, and congratulate the editor on his success in bringing together as collaborators a body of writers so well competent to deal with their subjects. It is the privilege of the present day to possess encyclopædic works where the special subjects are, as for the most part in the present volumes, assigned to those whose standing as scholars entitles them to speak with authority upon them. No better man could be selected to describe the features of the different versions of the Scriptures than Dr. Tregelles,—the materials and principles of New Testament Textual Criticism than the scholarly author of our best manual upon the Canon, Mr. Westcott,—no better man to write upon the construction of ancient ships, and similar subjects, than Dr. Howson, the late lamented Conybeare's coadjutor,—upon the observance of the Lord's day, than Dr. Hessey, (though curiously enough the "Sabbath" article is by another hand),—upon the Natural History of the Holy Land than Dr. Hooker, of the Kew Botanic Gardens, and Mr. Houghton, who has prepared a special appendix, dealing with certain subjects in this field which, from the gradual extension of the plan of the work, required a fuller treatment than had been given them in the early portion of it,—upon the Synoptic Gospels than Dr. Thomson, Archbishop of York (though we are unable to see on what ground the more subtle and difficult subject of the fourth Gospel was assigned to a much less able pen);—nor is any man living more competent to write of the Temple and the topography of Jerusalem (though with some peculiarities) than Mr. Fergusson, of Assyria and Babylon than Mr. Rawlinson, of Nineveh than Mr. Layard, or of the Lebanon than Mr. Porter. As a whole, the work is by far the most valuable body of Biblical knowledge that has ever been completed; and is an honour to English scholarship, as well as a sufficient disproof of the recklessly repeated assertion that Biblical studies are cultivated only by a select few, and that we have no independent and vigorous learning amongst us.

There are, of course, disadvantages in employing so large a number as about seventy contributors. So many cannot possibly have the highest scholarship; and thus considerable inequality in the work is occasioned, and inferior articles find a place. The proportion and harmony of the parts are also somewhat sacrificed. In a few instances, as might be expected, the traces of recent special reading, and of rather mechanical compilation, appear; and confidence in the writer is somewhat shaken. We have certainly found no article that we think contemptible, or even unworthy of sacred literature: but there are several that are so far below the mark that should be attained by a standard work of reference, that one gets into the way of looking at each article with reference to the weight of its writer's name, rather than to the general authority of the work as a whole. A more rigid scrutiny of the learning and literary knowledge of a few of the contributors would, in our opinion (which we desire to express without arrogance or censoriousness), have led to the exclusion of some of the articles and the careful revision of others. This is the only fault of editing of which we have to complain.

We do not, of course, profess to have read critically, or even cursorily, the whole of the 4,000 closely-printed columns contained in these two volumes. But, happily, it is not necessary to the purpose of this notice that we should have done so. With regard to many of the contributors, we gladly take the attitude of learners; while, as we have intimated, with regard to one or two others, the perusal of a few articles has been enough to make us thankful that no larger portion of the work has fallen into their hands. Some inconvenience inevitably arises from the conflicting opinions of even the ablest scholars. We have already referred to the articles by Archbishop Thomson on the Synoptic Gospels. They strike us as admirably suited to the purposes of a work like the present. Not so full as, even to a younger student, to supersede the use of elaborated independent works, they yet contain a fair and sufficient view of the results of criticism in reference to a subject of paramount importance above all in the present day; and the decision of the writer is on all points well weighed and worthy of respect. After reading, therefore, his able summing-up of the case *pro* and *con* respecting the original language of the first Gospel (pp. 275, 276), and his judiciously

qualified opinion in favour of its having been *not* Hebrew, but Greek, it is curious to find the opposite view maintained with positiveness, and even something like contempt of the opposite opinion, in an article by Dr. Tregelles expressly devoted to the question (p. 1623). We are "far from convinced," says the former writer, "that it [the present great Gospel] is a reproduction of another Gospel from St. Matthew's hand." Says the latter, "To follow the unanimous agreement of later writers [in favour of a Hebrew original] is useless; but what can be said on the other side? What evidence is adduced that St. Matthew wrote in Greek? None whatever; but simply some *a priori* notions that he ought to have done so." And he proceeds, as if in express refutation of his collaborator in the former part of the volume, to make light of the argument in favour of the Greek being an original derived from the freedom and independence of its style—on which considerable stress is laid in the article upon "Matthew." On the whole the position taken by Dr. Thomson seems to us the stronger. It is scarcely possible to resist the natural inference deducible from the fact that not one of the witnesses quoted on behalf of a Hebrew original professes to have seen it for himself. The only apparent exception is that of Jerome, who, in a well-known passage, speaks of his having translated a (so-called) Gospel according to Matthew into both Greek and Latin, but which he subsequently identifies with a totally different work, a Gospel according to the Hebrews. Here again, of course, Dr. Thomson is in direct conflict with Dr. Tregelles (see p. 1624, note). Having said thus much about Dr. Thomson's articles on the Gospels, we will only add, that we could have welcomed a somewhat fuller treatment of a few interesting points,—as for example the questions, to what extent the earliest Christian apologist was acquainted with the writings of the Evangelists, whether or how far the third Evangelist made use of the materials of Matthew and Mark,—with some others. On the other hand, his elaborate and excellent doctrinal article on the "Saviour," and even the fulness of his more admirable article on "Jesus Christ," strike us as somewhat out of place in a work of the present kind.

Mr. Westcott's article on the "New Testament," is a very extensive and valuable one. It comprises a detailed history of the written and printed texts of the New Testament, together with an excellent summary of the "Principles of Textual Criticism." In the historical portion of the article is contained a full description of the materials and mode of writing of the ancient MSS. of the New Testament; together with a list of all the important uncials and cursives, and a particular characterisation of their leading features; also, a more minute account of the various sources of manuscript error than we believe is to be found anywhere else in the English language. It is illustrated by two well-executed plates, facsimiles from early MSS., which would, however, have been rendered more generally interesting, as well as useful, had the portions written in early characters—legible only to a few—been accompanied by a key. Also the critical designation of each MS. represented in facsimile should have been added to that by which it is known to the librarian of the British Museum. The rules of textual criticism are judiciously worded and illustrated,—based, of course, as all such rules must be, on the original masterly canons of Griesbach. The final section of the article devoted to the "Language of the New Testament" strikes us as meagre. It contains some useful remarks on the nature of the Hebraizing element in the New Testament, and the peculiar features of Scripture phraseology, but leaves unnoticed many specialities which might fairly have been touched upon. One statement of the writer's requires a good deal of qualification to make it other than misleading. "The most remarkable construction, which is well attested both in the LXX. and in the N. T. is that of the conjunctions *iva*, *ὅτι*, with the present indicative" (p. 532). We say nothing of *ὅτι*, which a provincial speaking the language only as he chanced to pick it up, might fail to distinguish from the similar *ὅτι*, but we have never been able to allow any such subversion of meaning as would be involved in the supposition that a word like *iva*, when denoting a purpose in the future, could by any possibility be followed by a present indicative. Mr. Westcott's doubtful example (which, indeed, he himself marks with a query) in Gal. vi. 12, may without difficulty be disposed of on his own principle of itacism (p. 518); and the two or three other instances in the New Testament which seem to favour such a view,—such as Gal. iv. 1, 7, may easily be explained as irregularities of inflection, not violations of an essential distinction of moods. We were rather surprised to see Mr. Westcott referring, even in so very suspicious a manner as the double note of interrogation implies, to an

alleged papyrus of the Gospel of Matthew dating from the first century, announced by that *veterator* Simonides!

Mr. Perowne's article on the Pentateuch, extending to thirty-two columns, has the merit among others of placing the unduly magnified "document question" in a fair light. He admits fully the originally separate existence of "Elohistic" and "Jehovistic" documents in the Book of Genesis and the earlier part of Exodus, both probably much more ancient than Moses himself, who embodied them in his narrative; while he wisely abstains from following the vain attempts (as the conflicting and mutually destructive character of the various schemes proves them to be) which have been made to point out to which original document or "redactor" each particular paragraph belongs. It is rather curious to find this writer quoting Dr. Davidson as an authority for the Mosaic authorship of Deuteronomy!—and the absence of any reference to later criticism induces one to think that the article was written some time ago, and has been allowed to remain unmodified. Its principal deficiency is the omission to discuss the alleged evidence against the antiquity of the Pentateuch as a whole, to be found in its general diction as compared with that of writers of the Regal period. This is notoriously a most important question; vigorously pressed as the attack is by those who deny the early date of even the earliest of the Mosaic books. Nor does the subject appear to be treated in the otherwise excellent and elaborate article by Mr. Thrupp on the Old Testament. Want of space can hardly be pleaded as a reason for the omission, when Mr. Llewellyn Davies's article on St. Paul—excellent every way, but extended rather beyond necessary or desirable limits—extends to sixty-four columns.

Greater thoroughness might have been secured in the articles devoted to separate books of the Bible had they been placed in groups according to their character, and each group allotted to the same writer. To parcel out the books of the Old Testament to something like a score of writers, and those of the New to little less than ten, is, in our opinion, a very undesirable subdivision of labour. It chanced that one of the first articles read by us was that on the Epistle to the Philippians, by the Rev. W. T. Bullock, and we should hardly be too severe, if we were to say that it is a fine illustration of what such an article ought not to be. Very ominous was the "*marie*,"—to borrow a term from Mr. Masson's pleasant sketch of Dr. Melvin,—that the Battle of Philippi was fought in the year 42, A.D.! and, to make the blunder perfect as a work of art, that ten years after this St. Paul entered the city! We afterwards observed that this astounding error had been corrected, by the editor we assume, in an erratum; but as it could not possibly deceive any one who would be the worse for such deception, we almost wish it had been left there undisturbed in its native simplicity. An article intended for the student should, besides being studiously accurate and precise in its facts—be as brief as is consistent with clearness—should command the whole field of discussion bearing on the subject—should guide the student to the best sources of which he may avail himself—and should above all eschew preaching. Such vague statements as the following simply encourage sciolism:—"F. C. Baur, followed by Schwegler, has argued, from the phraseology of the Epistle and other internal marks, that it is the work of not of St. Paul, but of some Gnostic forger in the second century." If the works of the two German critics were in every student's hands—as happily they are not—the writer might have fairly assumed a reference on the part of the reader thereto; as it is, it surely might have been deemed of interest to the student to know on what grounds one of the most intimately personal and life-like of all the Apostle Paul's writings was thus obelized at Tübingen. But those who look for such information from the writer of the article in question will be disappointed. Nor will their disappointment be allayed, we imagine, by any quantity of such prosing and weak narrative passages as the following:—

"There, at a greater distance from Jerusalem than any apostle had yet penetrated, the long-restrained energy of St. Paul was again employed in laying the foundation of a Christian Church. Seeking first the lost sheep of the house of Israel, he went" &c.

"Her house [that of Lydia] became the residence of the missionaries. Many days they resorted to the Proseucha, and the result of their short sojourn in Philippi was the conversion of many persons (xvi. 40), including at last their jailor and his household."

Equally unsatisfactory is the article, "Revelation," by the same writer. There is the same inability shown to discern what information will be of use to the student, and the same vagueness where precise detail is required; as for example in discussing the diction and phraseology of that remarkable book. The definition of the term

* A Dictionary of the Bible, comprising its Antiquities, Biography, Geography, and Natural History. Edited by WILLIAM SMITH, LL.D. Vols. II. and III. London: Murray; and Walton and Maberly.

"Præterist" applied to a certain school of interpretation of the Apocalypse, as marking those who are of opinion "that the revelation has been almost, or altogether fulfilled in the time that has passed since it was written," is loose and incorrect; and his urging as an argument to prove that the prophecies contained in the book could not refer to the destruction of Jerusalem, as that event "occurred twenty-five years previously," shows an almost incredible ignorance of the ground taken by those who maintain the opinion impugned. In a similar loose way, the admirable work of Moses Stuart receives no further notice than its insertion in a list of so-called "Præter-ists" some of them—as Ewald, De Wette—differing materially from him in their doctrinal stand-point, and consequent treatment of the subject of prophecy generally. The thoughtful and suggestive work of Mr. S. T. Porter, though devoted to the exhibition of a theory of the Apocalypse totally distinct from any of the three "classes" enumerated, is not even mentioned. We have only to add respecting this contributor, that his article on John before alluded to (in Vol. I.), is even worse than either of those on which we have animadverted.

The Book of Isaiah is scarcely treated with the masterly skill that we could have desired for the chief of the prophets. The writer contends for the authenticity of the chapters which some of the most eminent scholars attribute to a deutero-Isaiah. Unfortunately, as we think, another writer comes into collision with Mr. Huxtable, and maintains (in the article on Tyre) the opposite view, as well as a date subsequent to Isaiah for the Book of Job, with some slight insinuation of a doubt of the existence of "predictive prophecy." The Hon. Mr. Twissleton, the author of that article, which is ably and exhaustively written, also contributes remarkably well-studied articles on the Books of Samuel, Phœnicia and the Phœnicians, the Pharisees and the Sadducees; and is more likely than most of the contributors to find favour with the "more advanced" school of critics. The treatment of Job is very far from satisfactory to us; but the article is more likely to be regarded slightly on account of its conservative character and minor errors, than for the feebleness by which it is marked. Mr. Thrupp is the author of the article on the Psalms; and, by his previously published work on that book, is entitled to speak as one who has studied minutely, and settled his opinions with deliberation and care. But he, with many great merits, is inclined to indulge in ingenious and doubtful suppositions; and will certainly not command the assent of scholars to his view of the trustworthiness of the titles to the Psalms. Mr. Plumptre writes on Solomon and Ecclesiastes,—with much refinement and elegance; but, as to the latter especially, with considerable indecision—hesitating both as to the authorship, and as between traditional view and the positions taken by the later criticism. The Historical Books treated by Lord Arthur Hervey find in him a well-informed, careful, logical critic. The same writer deals with the Genealogy of Jesus after the manner to which he is already committed by a learned work on the subject.

What Bishop Ellicott's contributions on the Epistles are likely to be can readily be judged by all who know the works of this our best English critical commentator. What has further been done by Mr. Lightfoot, the Hulsean Professor of Divinity, only makes us wishful that more of the work had been placed in his hands, and excites our hope of great future service to Biblical literature from this accomplished scholar. We can commend without reserve, and therefore give but a word to, Mr. Westcott's articles on the Canon and the Vulgate—each very elaborate and complete—and on the several books of the Apocrypha. The intellectual power and fine scholarship of this writer are very marked; and his contributions would go far to give a high character to a work less generally excellent than this. Canon Selwyn, on the Septuagint, is admirable for the arrangement of his matter and the lucidity with which he writes; but has hardly reached the full requirements of his great and interesting subject. To Mr. Emanuel Deutsch, of the British Museum, we owe an exhaustive treatment of "Targum," and a full and learned article on the Samaritan Pentateuch.

Passing, as space compels us, to another class of articles, we must note the almost invariable excellence of those on Geography and Topography. These surpass all that has previously been done for the subject. A very large number of them are by Mr. George Grove; and all these give evidence of fine and various culture, and of careful study. The greater part of that on Palestine is his,—and the descriptive portions of that on Jerusalem, with a summary of its annals till the time of its destruction by Titus,—as also that on the Salt Sea; and they may be pointed out as examples of something

like perfection in the department to which they belong. Dr. Hackett, of Massachusetts, well-known for his excellent Commentary on the Acts, writes on Shechem and Shiloh, and Dr. Bonar on Siloam; and these, with Mr. Grove's articles just named, are illustrated by several beautiful engravings, some from photographs, others from sketches by Mr. Tipping and others, which bear witness to the valuable influence of photography and of some of the later developments of landscape art on our system of book-illustration, and are perfect specimens of what may be accomplished on wood.

In Biography, the Dictionary is generally satisfying—both as presenting the facts intelligently and with distinctness, and as treating with scholarly adequacy the questions that belong to criticism. Mr. L. Davies's article on Paul (to which we have already referred) might well be published independently, and would then have more justice done it than is possible to one of a multitude of biographical sketches. It is to Dean Stanley, however, that we owe the finest possible examples of what biographical articles in such a work should be; and we recall his Moses, Samuel, David, Stephen, and Thomas, as having impressed us with their deservingness of highest praise. The historical subjects might have been expected under Dr. William Smith's superintendence to be cared for so as to leave nothing to be desired. There seems to us, however, less than the highest excellence in several contributions, and something occasionally of peculiarity of opinion, and even of unreliable representation; but, on the other hand, a large proportion—especially those bearing the well-known names of Poole, Layard, and Rawlinson—will satisfy the most searching criticism and the most exacting sense of the claims of the subjects. Here we would recognise with much approbation and thankfulness the introduction of a complete list of the names of obscure persons and places, giving information where it exists, or a reference to the Bible passages in which they occur when no more is known. We think we trace sometimes obligations that are not acknowledged; but, with this feature of the work are so well pleased, that we are glad to testify that we have as yet sought for no name which is not to be found either in the body of the work or its supplementary pages.

Amongst the contributors of articles on a considerable variety of subjects, we notice one who treats of Immanuel, Idolatry, Hebrew Poetry, Writing, the Book of Proverbs, Tammuz, and Selah; and it is something to be able to say that on all these, with many others, there is displayed full knowledge and delicate scholarship, with great clearness and power of condensation. We wish the literary qualities of this writer's articles could have been imparted to a much larger portion of the work. The same writer, Mr. Aldis Wright, has prepared the numerous articles (with some exceptions to be noticed immediately) contained in an Appendix, which supplies the omissions of the first volume, due chiefly, as in the case of the other Appendix, to the enlargement of the range of the work after much of that volume was in type.

We have noticed a contributor who is much given to prosing, and indulging in perfectly obvious remarks. Thus, under "Shepherd," we read:—

"The routine of the shepherd's duties appears to have been as follows: In the morning he led forth his flock from the fold (John x. 4), which he did by going before them and calling to them, as is still done in the East; arrived at the pastures, he watched the flock with the assistance of dogs (Job. xxx. 1), and, should any sheep stray, he had to search for it until he found it (Ez. xxxiv. 12; Luke xv. 4). He supplied them with water," &c. &c.

The same writer discourses in the following manner of husband and wife ("Marriage," p. 252).

"The relations of husband and wife appear to have been characterised by affection and tenderness. He is occasionally described as the friend of his wife (Jer. iii. 20; Hos. iii. 1), and his love for her is frequently noticed (Gen. xxiv. 67, xxix. 18). On the other hand, the wife was the consolation of the husband in time of trouble (Gen. xxiv. 67), and her grief at his loss presented a picture of the most abject woe (Joel i. 8). . . . At the same time, we cannot but think that the exceptions to this state of affairs were more numerous than is consistent with our ideas of matrimonial happiness." (1)

Nothing can be more valueless than this kind of vague talk.

The appendix to the first volume, to which we have referred, contains three important articles—in subject, at least, if not in execution. That on "Baptism" is by Professor Harold Browne (now appointed to the See of Ely). It is written with much ability, but is far from complete. It is said that "the language of the New Testament sufficiently points to immersion as the common mode of baptism"; and one of the foremost passages quoted is that "representing Jesus as 'coming up out of the water' (*ἀναβαίνων ἐκ τοῦ ὕδατος*) after his baptism." The writer is hardly

likely to be considered a better authority than Winer, who expressly says of this phrase, "not 'out of,' but *from* the water." Mr. Meyrick, "One of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools," is the author of the articles on "Antichrist" and the "Church." We are sorry that, speaking under a strong sense of the claims of the subject, we can only describe the former as exceedingly poor and unsatisfactory,—the conception of the subject, as to the New Testament, being very feeble and confused, and the article chiefly taken up with the views of different classes of writers. The article on the "Church" is written from a Church-of-England point of view. In treating of the constitution of the Apostolic Church, the officers alone are considered; and the organised congregation, so prominent in the New Testament records, is utterly ignored. The numerous passages in the Acts and Epistles which indicate the participation of the believing community in the government, discipline, and furtherance of the Church, are passed over in utter silence. We are asked to believe that Luke intentionally defines the Church (Acts ii. 41) as the body of baptized persons, in which the faith of the Apostles is maintained, "connection with the Apostles preserved," the sacraments duly administered, and public worship kept up. So far as the writer's account of the literature of the subject is concerned, there is no Church in these isles but the Established Churches of England, Scotland, and Ireland, and none in America but the Protestant Episcopal Church. It would have been more worthy of the editor, as a distinguished scholar amongst Nonconformists, had he insisted that the subject, if brought down at all beyond Apostolic times, should be so treated, in the section on "the existing Church" (to which a section is devoted), as to represent truthfully the actual facts.

We have stated without reserve the impressions produced by a careful examination of these volumes; and, though we have not been wholly satisfied, it is a great pleasure to say that our chief feeling is that of deep gratitude to the editor, and to most of the contributors, for an invaluable addition to our Biblical literature.

DEAN ALFORD, THE "QUEEN'S ENGLISH," AND THE "NONCONFORMIST."*

The amenity of Greek feeling forbade the use of any more durable trophy of war than a trunk of wood bedecked with arms. Dean Alford has chosen to give whatever permanence is at his disposal to his unfriendly insinuations against us, by divesting them of their original fugitive character and deliberately publishing them as part of an integral work. This must be our apology for recurring to a little controversy which our readers may think they have had enough of. We should be sorry to let any sense of having been unhandsonely used influence us in expressing our opinion of the volume which has come under our eye as censors. But it is simply impossible for us to regard in a perfectly impersonal manner a work in which our good name is taken in vain, and unfair charges against us deliberately repeated.

Dean Alford has inserted a note in this volume, which we very willingly place before our readers.

"These paragraphs have provoked a rather vehement rejoinder in a late number of the *Nonconformist*, in which they are characterised as 'a sufficiently ill-intentioned, if not very powerful assault on the *Nonconformist*.' Two remarks may be pertinent in reply. The first, that no assault on any paper, as such, was ever contemplated by me, but as strong a protest as I could make against the most objectionable principle laid down in the critique, and an endeavour, by exposure of the blunder, to show how much the opinion was worth. The blunder is now rather amusingly defended thus: 'We accidentally substituted for the less known Epenetus what is to the classical scholar the more familiar and analogously formed name Sophænatus.' Now as regards the classical scholar,—Epenetus, the writer on cookery, is about as often mentioned in Athenæus, as Sophænatus in Xenophon: and the matter in question being *St. Paul's lists of salutations*, I do not see why the critic should have gone to Xenophon for his example, unless he had believed that the name occurred in St. Paul also.

"The second remark shall be an extract from a letter written by one of the first Nonconformist Biblical scholars of the day:—'I felt rather vexed, that so respectable a newspaper as the *Nonconformist* should have inserted the inexcusably stupid and grossly ignorant remarks of one of its correspondents, in reference to your articles on the Queen's English.'

Instead of readily admitting our explanation, the Dean sneers in italics (unless we misunderstand his use of them) at our assuming to have any classical scholarship. Be it so:—we, on the other hand, have our own opinion of his scholarship, as to matters minute and delicate. If he

* *The Queen's English: Stray Notes on Speaking and Spelling.* By HENRY ALFORD, D.D., Dean of Canterbury. London: Strahan; Cambridge: Deighton, Bell, and Co.

intends to maintain that the word *Epenetus* is as common and familiar as *Sophænetus*, we calmly deny it. The readiness with which one or another name occurs to the memory of a scholar, does not at all depend on the frequency with which it is used by a particular author, but on what the name represents to the mind. It is not true to say that our "blunder is amusingly defended";—for it is not defended at all, but explained. And we should have fancied that only personal vanity, wounded by criticism, could persist in regarding it as more than a most trivial error to insert, from memory, the one word for the other, when the only point under consideration was the pronunciation of the two syllables (*ane*) common to both words, and entirely unaffected by the first syllable, whether *Soph-* or *Ep-*.

Dean Alford has reprinted the passage by which he led some of his *Good Words* readers to believe—as we happen to know—that he had identified his *Nonconformist* critic with a person who mispronounced the words *Orion*, *Arcturus*, &c., when publicly reading and expounding a chapter of the Bible. Though we laughed at the poor joke before, we cannot, now that it is deliberately republished, acquit Dean Alford of a willingness to produce that false impression in quarters to which he knows this journal never finds its way.

The quotation from his learned *Nonconformist* correspondent, with which the Dean has favoured us, requires but a word. No doubt that eminent Biblical scholar thinks it "inexcusable stupidity" for us "or any other man" to have any other opinion than he holds himself. But will the amiable wasp-tongue tell us where lies the "grossest ignorance"? Will he, or Dean Alford, undertake to give from memory, without a moment's refreshing, a complete list of the Pauline salutations? If they can—why—they are welcome enough to the insignificant little accomplishment, and may conceit themselves that that is scholarship, if they please.

Dean Alford seems to have curiously misunderstood us in one particular. We were very far from thinking the proprieties and idiomatic usages of the English language too insignificant a subject for a Dean! What we did say was, that in our opinion this particular Dean had shown himself but indifferently qualified to deal with it—which is another thing. We respect Dean Alford greatly for the devotion and perseverance which he has displayed in labouring in a field especially dear to us; we freely acknowledge that the student of the New Testament owes much to him. But this does not blind us to the fact that his English is not seldom lumbering and unidiomatic, as indeed this little volume abundantly shows. And, as our first remarks were partly occasioned by the earlier of these papers, we can scarcely do otherwise than show that the opinion we expressed was not unfounded or the mere suggestion of prejudice.

The title given by the Dean of Canterbury to the present work is unpretending. In running the eye down the somewhat miscellaneous index of contents, it is only fair to remember this. Perhaps it may admit of question how far the pronunciation of such names as *Aristobulus*, *Patrobas*, and our injured friend *Epenetus* is a matter of the "Queen's English" at all. However, we will waive that point, and acknowledge that only a sense of the thing being overdone led us in the first instance to make the remarks we did. Before we dismiss this matter, we may remark that Dean Alford seems not to be aware that the Greek diphthong *ou*, when used in spelling Latin or other foreign words, denotes a *sound* only, and not a *quantity* at all. Thus, for example, the name or title *Licinus* is in Greek *Λικίνος*, and so on, where the penultimate accent would be obviously wrong. So that the Greek spelling of a word not Greek may easily mislead. So, too, the Dean ignores the fact that various words used as proper names amongst us are pronounced, probably as the result of a tradition reaching back many centuries, in accordance with accent, not quantity, as *Sophia*, *Ophelia*, *Eugenia*. In such cases, to "correct" the pronunciation according to the latter basis would be to substitute a dead rule for what was a living practice. These points being taken into consideration, the advice and rules furnished by Dean Alford on the subject of proper names may be safely commended.

We remark some misconceptions regarding more familiar points. The author is right in condemning the word "talented"; but by no means on the sole ground that there is no such verb as "to talent" (p. 101). On the same principle, the Latin *auritus* would have to be condemned, and the English *long-eared*, *four-footed*, and a host of others. Nor is it necessary to the correct formation of such words that they should be compounds. *Feathered*, *winged* (corresponding to Lat. *plumatus*, *alatus*), are sufficient to establish this. Such words are not "participles," but adjectives. Again, the author is

disposed to allow the objectionable verb, "to progress," on the strength of analogous formations; though, by the by, he overlooks the only precise parallel, "to digress." It is possible that "to progress" may at some future time receive the mint-mark of usage, but meanwhile it must be content with very questionable credit. Some of the author's remarks are too obvious and common-place for any work beyond an elementary treatise; as for example, the caution against confounding reverend and reverent, his explanation of the words "subjective" and "objective." These were well enough in place in an occasional lecture, but scarcely worth printing.

We ventured to express our opinion that Dean Alford was "not a particularly good writer of English." We must adduce a very few sentences in support of this offensive dictum of ours, and leave it to our readers to say whether we were right or wrong. The following, taken almost at random from the present volume, may suffice:—(The italics are in every case ours.)

"The omission of the u [in honour, &c.] is an approach to that wretched attempt to destroy all the historic interest of our language, which is known by the name of 'phonetic' spelling; concerning which we became rather alarmed some years ago, when we used to see on our reading-room tables a journal published by these people, called the 'Phonetic News.'"—P. 14.

"A few words more about these subjective and objective words."—P. 110.

"A good deal of confusion is prevalent in the usages of 'or' and 'nor' in a negative sentence."—P. 111.

"Any one on the look out for misunderstanding may convince himself by trial, &c."—P. 121.

"As I write these lines, which I do while waiting in a refreshment room at Reading, between a Great Western and a South-Eastern train, I hear one of two gentlemen from a neighbouring table, telling his friend that 'his 'ed used to hake ready to burst.'"—P. 38.

This elegant sentence with its long preamble leading to nothing will sufficiently bewilder our readers without any aid on our part.

We have reserved one most admirable piece of composition (?) to the last:—

"It is his (this critic's, referring to ourselves) doctrine, that in knowledge (!) of the proprieties of these minute points in Scripture, *inaccuracy is better than accuracy*, that I would especially hold up for your reprobation."

It would be very easy, though scarcely worth while, for us to go on adding indefinitely to this precious *spicilegium*, but we have given specimens enough, we conceive, to vindicate our own words—even without resorting to that *Thesaurus* which, indeed, we value too highly to degrade to such a purpose, the Dean's Greek Testament.

We notice one or two rather good stories of bad English. The following, we doubt not, made the Canterbury audience laugh, and it will do us no harm if it makes us laugh too:—

"A student at one of our military academies had copied a drawing of a scene in Venice, and in copying the title, had spelt the name of the city *Vennice*. The drawing-master put his pen through the superfluous letter, observing, 'Don't you know, Sir, there is but one *ven* in Venice?' On which the youth burst out laughing. On being asked what he was laughing about, he replied he was thinking how uncommonly scarce eggs must be there. The master, in wrath, reported him to the colonel in command, a Scotchman. He on hearing the disrespectful reply, without in the least perceiving the point of the joke, observed, 'An, a varra natural observation too.'"

Here we part company with the Dean, and in good temper.

LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND ART.

Madlle. Rosa Bonheur is engaged on a large picture, about ten feet high, intended as a companion to "The Horse Fair."

The Prince of Wales has printed for private circulation a copy of a papyrus which was discovered during his late visit to Thebes. This Egyptian document is older than the time of Pericles, yet it belonged to a period marked by the decline of Pharaonic art. Mr. Birch, of the British Museum, has seen it through the press.

Mr. John Forster's "Sir Jno. Eliot, a Biography," will be published by Messrs. Longman early in the approaching month.

The friends of Elihu Burritt will be glad to learn that his "Walk from John O'Groats to the Land's End" is in the press, and may be shortly expected, through the house of Sampson Low and Son.

The Reverend Mr. Ingle, a leading Tractarian clergyman in Exeter, has withdrawn from the naturalists' club in that city, because Mr. Pengelly, the Devonshire geologist, and one of the members of the club, has expressed his belief in Lyell's opinion as to the antiquity of man. The reverend gentleman has vindicated his conduct in the newspapers.

Mr. R. A. Arnold has undertaken to write "The History of the Cotton Famine." Mr. Arnold is known as the author of "Ralph; or, St. Sepulchre's and St. Stephen's," and as a contributor to our periodical literature; besides which, he was officially connected with "The Public Works Act."

Mr. F. Goodall, the recently-elected Royal Academician, has delivered his diploma picture to the body of which he is now a full member. The subject of this work is an old Nubian singing at the corner of a street in Cairo, and accompanying himself upon the native harp or lute. He is surrounded

by a motley group of listeners, representing all the elements of an Oriental street crowd.

THE NEW COMET is at present in the constellation Cygnus, at the distance of about 40 deg. from the pole; its course through the heavens, which is very rapid, will carry it through the constellations Cepheus, Cassiopeia, Andromeda, and Perseus, where it will be on the 1st of February, when it will make its nearest approach to the earth. It is believed to be the comet of 1810.

Among the probable contributors to the next Royal Academy Exhibition, report speaks of Messrs. F. Leighton, J. Calderon, H. S. Marks, C. Stanfield, R.A., D. Roberts, and F. Watts. Mr. Leighton will, probably, send not less than four works; Mr. Stanfield, the same number, if not a greater one; Mr. Marks has two, and Mr. Calderon three pictures. Mr. E. M. Ward has been engaged for a considerable part of the past summer and autumn on his water-glass picture for the Houses of Parliament, but he will doubtless not be absent from the annual gathering.

THACKERAY'S LAST WORK.—Charles Dickens, writing about Mr. Thackeray, in the February number of the *Cornhill Magazine*, says:—"On the table before me there lies all that he had written of his latest and last story. That it would be very sad to any one—that it is inexpressibly so to a writer—in its evidences of matured designs never to be accomplished, of intentions begun to be executed and destined never to be completed, of careful preparation for long roads of thought that he was never to traverse, and shining goals that he was never to reach, will be readily believed. The pain, however, that I have felt in perusing it has not been deeper than the conviction that he was in the healthiest vigour of his powers when he wrought on this last labour. In respect of earnest feeling, farseeing purpose, character, incident, and a certain loving picturesqueness blending the whole, I believe it to be much the best of all his works. That he fully meant it to be so, that he had become strongly attached to it, and that he bestowed great pains upon it, I trace in almost every page. It contains one picture which must have cost him extreme distress, and which is a masterpiece. There are two children in it, touched with a hand as loving and tender as ever a father caressed his little child with. There is some young love, as pure and innocent and pretty as the truth. And it is very remarkable that, by reason of the singular construction of the story, more than one main incident usually belonging to the end of such a fiction is anticipated in the beginning, and thus there is an approach to completeness in the fragment, as to the satisfaction of the reader's mind concerning the most interesting persons, which could hardly have been better attained if the writer's breaking off had been foreseen. The last line he wrote and the last proof he corrected are among these papers through which I have so sorrowfully made my way. The condition of the little pages of manuscript where death stopped his hand showed that he had carried them about, and often taken them out of his pocket here and there, for patient revision and interlineation. The last words he corrected in print were, 'And my heart throbbled with an exquisite bliss.' God grant that on that Christmas-eve, when he laid his head back on his pillow and threw up his arms, as he had been wont to do when very weary, some consciousness of duty done and Christian hope throughout life humbly cherished, may have caused his own heart so to throb, when he passed away to his Redeemer's rest."

Miscellaneous News.

THE GREAT EASTERN STEAMSHIP.—Messrs. Cunard, Wilson, and Co., of Liverpool, announce that the Great Eastern steamship will be sold on the 17th of February, "peremptorily and without any reserve," unless previously disposed of by private treaty.

THE BRONZE AND COPPER COINAGES.—It is stated that the old copper coin will ere long be declared an illegal tender, and that the Master of the Mint is particularly desirous to afford ample facilities for its return to the Mint previous to the issue of an official proclamation to the above effect.

HUNG IN A FROLIC.—A rather dangerous game has just been played at a well-known hostelry in Taunton. A number of "hail fellows, well met," were congregated in the taproom, when the conversation turned upon which was the biggest rogue, and ultimately it was resolved that the one who would plead guilty to the soft impeachment should be treated by his companions with a glass of brandy-and-water. One fellow declared that he was entitled to it, for he had done enough to deserve hanging. His companions fulfilled their part of the contract, and he drank the brandy-and-water. No sooner was that done than it was resolved that as he had deserved hanging, hanged he should be. A rope was at once procured, a noose made, and in a trice the rope was passed over his neck and attached to a hook in the ceiling, and the fellow dangled in mid-air. He soon began to show appearances of strangulation, when he was fortunately lowered. Another second or two, and he would have been a corpse. As it was, it was some time before he recovered.

PARLIAMENTARY VACANCIES.—By the death of Sir William Atherton a vacancy takes place in the representation of the city of Durham. The writ will probably not be issued until the meeting of Parliament, when it will be moved for in the usual way. It is said that there is likely to be a contest for the seat. On the first evening of the session a new writ will be

moved for the borough of Tewkesbury in the room of the Hon. F. Lygon, who has been elected member for the western division of Worcestershire. Sir J. Buller East, Bart., has announced his intention of resigning his seat for Winchester, and Mr. T. W. Fleming has announced himself as a candidate in the Conservative interest. Mr. Coningham has retired from the representation of Brighton, and several candidates are spoken of; amongst them being Mr. Otway, Mr. Dumas, and Mr. Moore. Mr. Otway has obtained the largest suffrage. A vacancy is expected to occur in the borough of Rye in the course of a few days by the resignation of Mr. Mackinnon. Captain Mackinnon (Liberal) and Mr. Macdonald (Conservative) are candidates.

SIR F. CROSSLEY, M.P.—The speech delivered by Sir Francis Crossley, at the recent West Riding Liberal demonstration at Leeds, having given rise to some misapprehension amongst some of the hon. baronet's political supporters, he has addressed a letter to a gentleman in reply to the question, "Whether any material change has taken place in his political views since the last election?" The letter appears in the *Leeds Mercury*. Sir Francis admits that, if viewed with a captious and suspicious spirit, his speech is capable of a construction never intended by him. He then enters into a brief retrospect of his conduct in the House of Commons during the eleven years he has been a member; declares that on the necessity of political and ecclesiastical reform not the slightest change has taken place in his opinions; and, in conclusion, asks to be judged by his whole political conduct rather than by a single speech admitting of misconstruction.

Cleanings.

Leeds is to be constituted the assize town for the West Riding.

Bell's Life states that Heenan is still suffering "from severe illness."

The continuance of the misty damp weather, which has prevailed so long, is stated to be almost unprecedented at this season.

A tattooed New Zealander, working as a gold-miner at the Bendigo diggings, found a nugget in November last, weighing 14½ lb., and worth 600*l.*—*Australian Paper.*

A man living in Spitalfields lately died from excure and drink. After death the fluids and the brain were frozen, a sheet of ice covering the membrane. The lining membranes over the breast also were so frozen as to form a sheet of ice.

"His mouth costs him nothing," said M. de Marolles of a censorious neighbour, "for he always opens it at the expense of others. I wish some day he would bite his tongue, for then he would poison himself."

In the Court of Queen's Bench, in a lunacy case, a witness, a laundress, was asked with respect to the defendant, "Was she abstemious?" Witness, evidently not knowing the meaning of the word, replied: "I never saw her so."

"Pray, Miss Sophy, what are you making?" said a gentleman to a young lady who was at work upon a garment of a straight up-and-down description in white calico. "A Sophy cover, sir," was the demure reply.

Dr. Brown, chaplain to the Bishop of Hereford, dining one day with his lordship, in company with a young lady to whom he paid his addresses, was asked for his toast after dinner; when the Bishop, perceiving him to hesitate, cried, "Oh, I beg your pardon, Doctor, your toast is not yet Brown."

THE DUKE OF YORK AND D.R. REED.—The following incident is related by a gentleman who once accompanied him to see the Duke of York, in reference to the London Orphan Asylum:—"Why, sir," said his Royal Highness to Mr. Reed, "they tell me you are a Dissenter." "I am, your Royal Highness," he answered, "and I regret to be so." "How can that be?" inquired the duke. "You might be in the Church, if you liked. What keeps you out?" "Nothing but my conscience, your Royal Highness," rejoined the Nonconformist. "Oh, I see," resumed his interrogator. "Well, I always respect a good man's conscience; but, if you had been in the Church, you would have been a bishop before this." To which Mr. Reed returned, "Your Royal Highness, I am content to be what I am." And the conversation closed with the remark, "Well, sir, I believe you are in the right; a bishopric might have spoiled you for your good work of charity."—*Memoirs of the Life and Labours of Dr. Andrew Reed.*

THE PROFESSOR AND THE EEL.—Professor Tyndall, in his last lecture on electricity, delivered to a juvenile audience, at the Royal Institution, being desirous to create an effect not likely to be forgotten by his hearers, introduced a very large eel in a tub of water. The professor passed an induced current of electricity through the creature. This, however, did not appear to be agreeable to his eelship, as he struggled violently; but as this was not sufficiently striking a still more powerful current was passed through him, when, to the astonishment of the juveniles, and the dismay of the professor, the eel jumped clean out of the tub, and began wriggling about upon the floor. Three eager assistants immediately darted upon him to return him to his tub, but, like Laocoon and his sons fighting with the serpents, they only succeeded in getting well twined about by the eel, for he was far too strong and slippery for them to hold, and as fast as one end was put into the water, the other escaped over the side, causing roars of laughter amongst the boys, who fully appreciated the new actors' endeavours to amuse them. The professor in vain directed the

efforts of his underlings; the eel was not to be caught until the *Dens ex machina*, in the shape of Mr. Anderson, with a woollen cloth, appeared upon the scene, when, grasping him with the cloth, the eel was returned to his bath; the boys, however, had so enjoyed the fun that the professor had little chance to gain their attention again that day.—*The Electrician.*

WEATHER FORECASTS.—In a letter to the *Times*, Messrs. Negretti and Zambra give the following short rules as guides to the weather:—*A Rising Barometer.*—A "rapid" rise indicates unsettled weather. A "gradual" rise indicates settled weather. A "rise" with dry air and cold increasing in summer indicates wind from northward; and if rain has fallen better weather is to be expected. A "rise" with moist air and a low temperature indicates wind and rain from northward. A "rise" with southerly wind indicates fine weather. *A Steady Barometer*, with dry air and a seasonable temperature, indicates a continuance of very fine weather. *A Falling Barometer.*—A "rapid" fall indicates stormy weather. A "rapid" fall with westerly wind indicates stormy weather from northward. A "fall" with a northerly wind indicates storm, with rain and hail in summer and snow in winter. A "fall" with increased moisture in the air and the heat increasing indicates wind and rain from southward. A "fall" with dry air and cold increasing in winter indicates snow. A "fall" after very calm and warm weather indicates rain, with squally weather.

ROMANISM IN AMERICA.—From the fact that most of Archbishop Hughes's colleagues in other parts of the country display very much the same excellences and defects as himself, it is fair to presume that for the present it is the policy of the Church in America to get rich, and leave the multiplication of her votaries to time and Providence. So far she has done little or nothing by proselytising; she has made little or no impression on the hard shell of Puritanism which meets her in all parts of the country. In some of the large cities she has won over a few ladies by dint of music and embroidery; but as a general rule, the only wealthy people the communion can boast are Irish or Germans, who have come over poor, and have since grown rich by successful toil or speculation. Up to the present, the number of souls who find the meat of New England theology too strong for their spiritual stomachs, satisfy their needs, without leaving the pale of Protestantism, in the Episcopal Church; and as for the Puritans proper, Catholicity has still less chance with them here than in England, for the voices of antiquity and tradition, which do so much for it in the Old World, are here very useless weapons. Old houses and old trees are still held in some veneration, but the last thing that your true typical American would think of would be embracing an opinion or adopting a custom because of its age. In addition to this, the Church has suffered a good deal from the low estate of its members. A body which is largely made up of cooks, chambermaids, and hod-carriers, can hardly be expected to dazzle the beholders by the splendour or impressiveness of its ritual; and from long association a vast number of Americans have come to look upon the Mass as a species of diversion peculiar to Irishmen, and of much the same nature as "wakes," or a certain kind of social gathering known amongst the expatriated Hibernians here as a "shindy." Moreover, this same fact has had its influence on the Irish themselves. From the minute the Irishman lands in America his great ambition is to get rid of his national characteristics, and merge himself in the great body of American citizens. . . . Even where this does not act powerfully on the old people, it is pretty sure to do so on their children, who are sent to the American schools with great diligence by their parents, if for no other reason to enable them to get rid of the brogue, and grow up real Americans. And they do grow up real Americans and bad Catholics. The number of this second generation who pass through indifference into apostasy is undoubtedly very large—so large that a few years ago it was believed even by the priests that it took all the emigrants who arrived to fill the gaps left by perversion in the ranks of the faithful. Immigration is now carried on on too great a scale for this to be any longer true, but it still needs all the energies of the Church, all its arts and resources, to enable it to hold its own amongst the young. For this reason its attention is now concentrated on the work of getting money, as a means of keeping the education of Catholic children in its own hands, and of raising the profession of Catholicism out of the social discredit which now attaches to it by surrounding its ceremonies with the pomp and éclat which mark them in Europe, by building finer churches, finer convents, and training up "genteel" Catholics to frequent them and not be ashamed of them. As long as it is passing through this phase, it is of course vigorous and shrewd administrators of the things of this life, rather than devout dispensers of things spiritual, that it needs on its thrones, and Archbishop Hughes was an excellent specimen of the former class.—*Daily News Correspondent.*

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

MARRIAGES.

LAWSON—TOOKEY.—Oct. 24, 1863, at Sydney, by the Rev. J. Eggleston, secretary to Wesleyan missions in Australia, at the residence of Captain Walsh, of the ship John Wesley. Henry Lawson, Esq., of the Australian and New Zealand Shipping Company, to Miss Ann Elizabeth Tookey, late of Fiji, and formerly of London.

PRITCHARD—BRIGGS.—Nov. 11, at the house of, and by the Rev. Isaac New, East Melbourne, Australia, Charles

Pritchard, Esq., of Epwam, Australia, to Sarah Jane, youngest daughter of the late Mr. Joseph Briggs, formerly of Leeds.

ROUTLEDGE—SHAW.—Jan. 16, at Albion Chapel, Hull, Mr. E. A. Routledge, to Blanche, second daughter of John Shaw, Esq., Rose Villa, Hull.

ROOME—WATERMAN.—Jan. 19, at Marlboro' Chapel, Old Kent-road, by the Rev. H. R. Reynolds, assisted by the Rev. W. A. Eassey, the Rev. W. J. Boden Roome, of Coventry-road, Birmingham, to Emma Eugenia, second daughter of the late James Waterman, Esq., of Southwark. No cards.

ALLEN—RUTTY.—Jan. 21, by licence, at St. Mary's, Spital-square, by the Rev. R. S. Clifford, M.A., Mr. Charles Allen, to Louisa Isabella, only daughter of the late Samuel Rutty, Esq., of Forest-row, Kingland. No cards.

JONES—ROGERS.—Jan. 21, at Bethlehem Chapel, St. Clears, by the Rev. S. Thomas, minister of the place, assisted by the Rev. J. Gwynne Jones, Penstanton, Hunta, the Rev. G. Jones, Independent minister, Langharne, to Margaret, eldest daughter of H. Rogers, Esq., of the same place.

DEATHS.

MORISON.—Jan. 8, at Hastings, after a short illness, Catherine Murray Morison, aged eighteen, granddaughter of the late Rev. John Morison, D.D., of Trevor Chapel, Brompton.

LIVETT.—Jan. 9, at Newton Villa, Cotham-road, Bristol, aged sixty-five, James Livett, Esq., solicitor.

LANGFORD.—Jan. 14, at 13, Milton-terrace, Wandsworth-road, Mrs. Langford, the mother-in-law of the Rev. James Rowland, Henley-on-Thames, aged eighty-five.

DIX.—Jan. 17, at Tivetahall, Norfolk, aged fifty-four years, Hannah Dix, one of the Society of Friends.

HOWARD.—Jan. 18, at Salem Cottage, Sowerby, Thirsk, Mary, wife of the Rev. Henry Howard, Independent minister.

HOLLICK.—Jan. 18, Miss Ann Blunkett Hollick, of Whittlesford Lodge, Cambridgeshire. She was the last representative of an old Nonconformist county family, and from her notes, taken during Robert Hall's early ministry at Cambridge, some of his published sermons were printed.

BRAMALL.—Jan. 19, at Islington, the Rev. John Bramall, for many years secretary to the Cheshunt College and London Chapel-Building Committees.

MUMMERY.—Jan. 19, at Park Cottage, Brixton, of consumption, Mrs. Elizabeth Mummery, in the fiftieth year of her age, widow of the late Mr. W. S. Mummery, of Surbiton. Her end was perfect peace.

THOMPSON.—Jan. 21, Mary Elizabeth, eldest daughter of the Rev. John Thompson, of Radcliffe Bridge, near Manchester.

ATHERTON.—Jan. 22, in his fifty-eighth year, at Westbourne-terrace, Sir William Atherton, late Attorney-General. It will be remembered that the learned gentleman retired from office about a year ago, in consequence of ill-health, and though he appeared to rally a little he never recovered, and died, as already stated, on Friday. He was not celebrated as a lawyer, but had good average abilities, and was distinguished by an able temper and very agreeable manners.

JACKSON.—Lately, in London, Mr. Peter Jackson, since 1819 an official connected with the Sunday-school Union, and an office-bearer in the Independent Church, Barbican.

LIVSEY.—At Rochdale, in his forty-ninth year, Mr. Alderman Livsey, an active and respected politician in that borough.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—INSTRUCTIVE FACT.—Throughout our summers numbers of persons suffer from feverishness, loss of appetite, indigestion, and shooting pains in the muscles and joints, who could at once command ease by resorting to Holloway's Pills. This is a fact which has been justly and for a long time admitted by the profession and the public. In all cases of debility these Pills exercise the most indisputable efficacy in, and they successfully combat with, indigestion, involuntary sighing, headache, and habitual constipation. They healthfully, yet quietly, regulate the stomach, liver, and bowels. Such valuable and extended benefits explain the cause of Holloway's Pills being everywhere received with such universal favour, and satisfactorily account for the considerable and incessant increase in their sale.—[Advertisement.]

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, LONDON, Monday, Jan. 25.

The supply of English wheat fresh up this morning was small, but liberal arrivals from the Baltic and American ports have come to hand. The inquiry was very inactive, and English wheat was offered at the prices of Monday last. Foreign wheat met a retail demand, at previous prices. Flour sold slowly, at last week's prices. Peas and beans were a dull sale, at late rates. Arrivals of oats are moderate, but they met a slow demand, and prices ruled the same as on Monday last. We have fair arrivals of cargoes for orders on the coast, which are held with firmness, but meet with less demand. Barley was dull.

BUTCHERS' MEAT, ISLINGTON, Monday, Jan. 25.

For the time of year, the supply of foreign beasts and sheep on offer in our market to-day was extensive, whilst its general quality was good. Sales progressed steadily for all descriptions, and prices were well supported. The receipts of beasts fresh up this morning from our own grazing districts, as well as from Scotland, were large, and the general quality of the supply was prime. The beef trade was inactive for most breeds, but sales progressed steadily, at prices fully equal to Monday last. The general top figure for the best Scots and crosses was 5s per 8lbs, but a few very superior animals produced 5s 2d per 8lb. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire, we received 2,000 Scots, crosses, &c.; other parts of England, 700 various breeds; from Scotland, 380 Scots and crosses; and, from Ireland, 120 oxen. Although the show of sheep was very moderate, the mutton trade was somewhat heavy. The best Downs and half-breds changed hands at late rates, but heavy breeds of sheep were in some instances a shade lower compared with Monday last. The highest value for Downs was 6s per 8lbs. There were a few Dorset and Somersetshire lambs on offer, but they commanded very little attention; prices ranged from 6s 8d to 7s 0d per 8lbs. Calves were in but very moderate supply, nevertheless they met a dull inquiry, at late rates, viz., from 4s to 5s 2d per 8lbs. Pigs were in fair average supply, and the pork trade ruled steadily, on former terms.

Per 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

	s. d. s. d.		s. d. s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3 6 to 3 10	Prime Southdown	5 10 to 6 0
Second quality	4 0 4 4	Lambs	6 8 7 0
Prime large oxen	4 6 4 8	Lge. coarse calves	4 0 4 6
Prime Scots, &c.	4 10 5 0	Prime small	4 8 5 2
Coarse inf. sheep	3 10 4 4	Large hogs	3 6 4 0
Second quality	4 6 5 0	Neatm. porkers	4 2 4 6
Pr. coarse woolled	2 5 8		

Suckling calves, 12s to 20s. Quarter-old store pigs, 20s to 25s each.

NEWGATE AND LEADENHALL, Monday, Jan. 25.

Only moderate supplies of meat have come to hand at these markets to day, and the trade rules inactive, at the following quotations:—

Per 8lbs by the carcase.

	s. d. s. d.		s. d. s. d.
Inferior beef	3 2 to 3 6	Small pork	4 4 to 4 8
Middling ditto	3 8 4 10	Inf. mutton	3 8 3 10
Prime large do.	4 0 4 2	Middling ditto	4 0 4 4
Do. small do.	4 2 4 4	Prime ditto	4 6 4 8
Large pork	3 6 4 2	Veal	3 8 4 8

PRODUCE MARKET, TUESDAY, Jan. 26.

TEA.—The public sales were brought to a conclusion yesterday. Fine descriptions of green realized full rates, but rough

and inferior qualities of congo were in some instances rather easier.

SUGAR.—The amount of business done has been to a small extent, and prices generally show a downward movement. In the refined market the trade only purchase for immediate requirements, and quotations are without material change.

COFFEE.—The amount of business done has been to a fair extent, and in most instances full quotations have been realised.

RICE.—A fair amount of business has been experienced in this market for exportation, and moderate transactions have taken place in floating cargoes, and prices have shown no material change.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Jan. 25.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 1,690 firkins butter, and 3,497 bales of bacon; and from foreign ports 21,377 casks butter, and 49 bales and 250 boxes of bacon. In the Irish butter market last week there was but a very limited amount of business transacted, without alteration to be noticed in prices. Foreign meat a steady sale, at previous rates. The bacon market ruled quiet: sales of best Waterford made at 54s. on board.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS, Monday, Jan. 25.—These markets continue to be fairly supplied with home-grown potatoes, both by land and water-carriage. Nearly all qualities move off steadily, and fine samples command rather higher currencies. There is no foreign produce on offer. Yorkshire Regents 85s to 95s, ditto Flukes 100s to 110s, ditto Books 70s to 75s, Perth, Forfar, and Fifeshire Regents 60s to 80s, ditto Rocks 65s to 70s, Kent and Essex Regents 80s to 90s per ton.

WOOL, Monday, Jan. 25.—Although money in the general discount market has advanced in price since our last report, the transactions for nearly all kinds of wool have improved, and prices generally continue to be steadily supported. The inquiry for export to the continent is on a limited scale. The supplies on offer are by no means extensive, and the stocks in the hands of the dealers are very moderate.

FLAX, HEMP, COIR, &c., Saturday, Jan. 23.—The trade for flax continues firm, at the full rates of this day week. Riga 51½ to 75½, St. Petersburg 43½ to 50½, Egyptian 24½ to 68½ per ton. In hemp only a moderate business is doing; nevertheless, clean Russian qualities command 40½ to 43½ per ton. Jute is less active, and has fallen 3½ to 4½ per ton. Coir goods are a slow sale, at late prices.

SEEDS, Monday, Jan. 25.—During the past week there has been an improved trade for seeds, but the principal business has been in red cloverseed, of which there is now a large supply of home-grown in our market, of various descriptions, and found buyers at prices varying from 41s to 74s. Foreign seed met more inquiry, and good and fine qualities of Bordeaux seed sold to-day at an advance of 3s on the values of Monday last. White seed was steady, without change in value. Trefoil was inactive, and prices are unaltered. Canaryseed is at full prices.

OIL, Monday, Jan. 25.—The amount of business doing in oils is very moderate. Lined seed slowly, and prices are 35s 6d per cwt on the spot. Rape is a slow sale, and foreign refined may be had at 42s, brown at 40s, and fine palm at 36s per cwt. Spermin was at 76½ to 77½, pale seed 49½ to 50½, and cod 53½ to 54½ per cwt. French spirits of turpentine are quoted at 71s 6d per cwt. Refined petroleum has advanced to 2s 1d per gallon.

COALS, Monday, Jan. 25.—Market heavy, in anticipation of a large arrival of ships for next day's market, all best coals are subject to next day's prices. Fresh ships, 53. Hugh Hall 30s, Holywell 20s, West Wylam 18s, Hartley's 17s, North Hartlepool 16s 6d, Norton's Anthracite, 22s.

TALLOW, Monday, Jan. 25.—The tallow trade is quiet to-day, on rather easier terms. The quotation for P.Y.C. on the spot is 41s 9d per cwt. Town tallow realises 41s 3d net cash. Rough fat commands 2s 1½d per 8lbs.

Advertisements.

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"The movement of this clock, next to that of Westminster, is the largest in the world, and in point of quality of material, and finish of workmanship, it is unequalled by any known."—Illustrated London News, Nov. 8, 1862.

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All Letters and Appointments receive prompt attention.

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FREDERICK VERSMANN,

"Consulting and Analytical Chemist,"

London, April 11, 1863."

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"We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified approbation; and we strenuously advise the use of it to all those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest satisfaction in thus recommending."—Church and State Gazette.

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